

The Nineteenth Report

OF THE

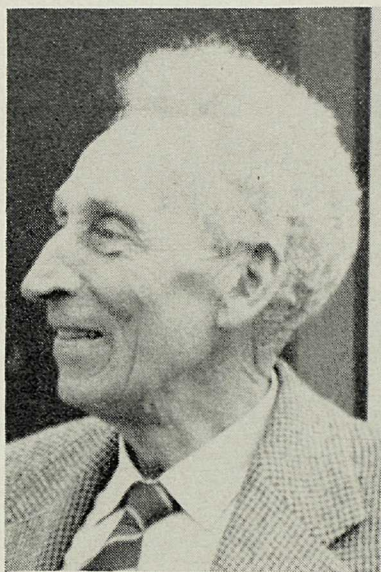
Okanagan Historical Society **1955**

Founded September 4, 1925



Aerial view of Enderby, 1955

This volume is dedicated
to the memory of
JAMES BACON KNOWLES
Who was born in Windsor, Nova Scotia in 1880;
and died in Kelowna, B.C., on Sunday, 6 February, 1955



Mr. Knowles was President of the
Okanagan Historical Society
1949 - 1955

James B. Knowles: President, 1949-1955

Mr. Knowles, president of the Okanagan Historical Society from 1949 to 1955, died at his lakeside home in Kelowna on Sunday morning, 6 February, 1955. His passing was not preceded by any period of illness. He was in his usual robust health to the end. Death came during sleep. In his passing the Society has sustained a great loss, but his example of devoted service will remain an inspiration. He was succeeded as president by J. D. Whitham of Kelowna at the annual meeting of the Society in Vernon on 5th May.

James Bacon Knowles was born in Windsor, Nova Scotia, in 1880. Coming to Okanagan, he established a jewellery store in Kelowna in 1905. This he continued till 1938, when he entered into partnership with the Thompson Brothers of Okanagan Mission in the celery and lettuce growing business. Mr Knowles retired in 1947.

A man of many parts, and many interests, Mr. Knowles was a charter member of the Kelowna Board of Trade, a member of the Kelowna Aquatic Association and Rotary Club; a past master of St. George's Masonic lodge (1921); and member of City Council 1918-1928, during which time he was chairman of the parks committee, and largely responsible for the development of the City Park. The family was identified with the membership of First United Church, Kelowna, from which funeral services, conducted by Rev. R. S. Leitch, were held. Mr. Leitch paid a fitting tribute to his life and work. Interment was in the family plot, Kelowna cemetery.

In recent years Mr. Knowles' chief interests were in the Kelowna Museum Association, and the Okanagan Historical Society, of which he was president at the time of his death. In the interests of the Society both Mr. and Mrs. Knowles did an amazing amount of work, and visited all the branches from time to time.

A very gracious personality, Mr. Knowles as president had the knack of getting things done in a way that commended itself to all the members. Drawing from wide experience, he was al-

ways wise in counsel, and was blessed with co-ordinating and administrative gifts. These combined to make him a rare president. Above all, he loved the work of the Society. Sometimes decisions were hard to make, and offices hard to fill. At such time he was conscious of a sense of guidance that gave him inward strength. He will be kindly remembered by all who knew him, and his memory will help to keep alive and flourishing the Society which was so much part of himself.

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Foreword

Although there is reason to believe that the Eighteenth Report was well received, we have not been tempted to rest on the oars. He was a wise artist who said that his best picture was the next one. Constant effort is necessary to maintain standards set by previous Reports. This is as it should be. In a letter to a friend Sir Hubert Herkomer wrote that "dissatisfaction is the crown of all art." We are not easily satisfied. We are grateful for continued help from established sources, and increasing help from new sources. These give us hope of progress.

As in former years, we have losses to record. Our president, Mr. James B. Knowles, died in Kelowna, on 6 February, 1955. He had guided the Society since 1949. The present Report is dedicated to his memory. Mrs. Georgina Logie Maisonville died in her Kelowna home on 8 March, 1955. She had been an active member of the Society's directorate for many years, and a frequent contributor to its annual reports. In the "In Memoriam" section are brief notices of other pioneers and oldtimers, of whose passing we have been advised.

We have had losses of another kind also. Some have left the district, and are no longer available for such ready help as they were wont to give. For example, Mrs. R. L. Cawston will be teaching an Indian school at Quatsino on Vancouver Island. As assistant editor in former years, she read proofs, wrote articles and prepared the Report index. Because she is no longer to hand, the present Report must appear without benefit of index. We can only hope that this loss will be made good in coming years.

Fortunately, there are some gains that help to preserve the balance. Mrs. D. Allison of Kelowna, and Mrs. R. B. White of Penticton, continue to take an active interest in the work of the editorial committee. Mr. and Mrs. Guy P. Bagnall, and Mrs. Mabel Johnson of Vernon, have been unfailing in help. There has been no call without adequate response. They are responsible also for a number of new names that appear as contri-

butors. The place of assistant editor has been ably filled by Mr. R. J. McDougall of Sorrento, whose unrivalled knowledge of local history, and all the details of shepherding a Report through the press, has helped so much.

A number of Okanagan cities have observed anniversaries this year. Salmon Arm municipality was proclaimed on 15 May, 1905, though the city of Salmon Arm was not incorporated till 12 March, 1912. Enderby on 1 March, and Kelowna on 4 May, marked their golden jubilee of incorporation. As a city, Oliver will be ten years old on the last day of December of this year. Much of last year's Report was devoted to Kelowna; much of this year's Report will deal with Salmon Arm and Enderby. Next year Summerland will observe its golden jubilee, and already committees are at work preparing for the celebration. In connection with their anniversaries, the *Kelowna Courier*, *Enderby Commoner* and the *Salmon Arm Observer* issued splendid souvenir editions. The Kelowna Courier Ltd. presented the Society with a handsomely-bound copy of its Golden Jubilee issue, May 2nd. and May 5th., 1955.

At the annual meeting in May, this year, at Vernon, Dr. W. N. Sage paid tribute to the Society, saying that the Okanagan Historical Society was one of the largest, English-speaking, historical societies in Canada. Later during the annual meeting A. E. Berry pointed out that some names had been omitted from the printed membership list in OHS.18. Following discussion, it was agreed that every effort should be made to have the printed membership include all members, with addresses. This Mr. Bagnall has tried to do. To achieve this end he has spared no labour. Those receiving reports, who discover any error in name, initials, or address, or if their name is omitted, will render a service if they notify Mr. Guy P. Bagnall, 3317 Coldstream Avenue, Vernon, B.C. Only in this way can a complete and correct membership list be compiled. We invite your co-operation.

It was decided also that the names of Patrons, (or those who donate to the Society the sum of \$10, or more, to further its work) should appear not only at the head of the list but also in the body of the printed membership. We are happy to learn that new names have been added to the list of Patrons. This promises

Foreword

well for the future work of the Society.

A word about the spelling of place-names: in spite of local preference, we feel that we have no option but to adopt spelling in the *Gazetteer of Canada: British Columbia* (Ottawa, 1953). To be consistent, we must use the spelling "Pendozi", when we are referring to a street name in Kelowna, and not "Pandosy," which we are prepared to believe is correct. Strange to say, the word "Pendozi" (or "Pandosy") does not appear in the *Gazetteer*. This means that apart from the street name in Kelowna, and the lake ferry-boat name, there is no place-name to honour Father Pandosy, O.M.I.

For help and encouragement thanks are due, also, to President J. D. Whitham of Kelowna, who has proved himself a worthy successor in office. He commands the respect and willing loyalty of us all. —J.G.

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Sir James Douglas ¹

Walter N. Sage

Sir James Douglas, K.C.B., (1803-1877), has been termed the Father of British Columbia. He holds almost a unique place in British overseas history in that he is one of the very few fur traders if not actually the only one, who became a colonial governor. As a matter of fact he was governor not of one but of two British colonies on the Northwest Pacific coast, Vancouver Island and British Columbia. He had received no special training for his position as a colonial governor. He had not attended an English public school nor was he a member of an Oxford or a Cambridge college. He had come up the hard way and had learned about men and affairs as an apprentice clerk and subsequently as a commissioned officer in the fur trade and not as a clerk in the service of the British Colonial Office. It was, however, not a bad preparation for a colonial governor who was called upon to deal with the Indians of the Northwest coast and also with the hordes of gold seekers who arrived at Victoria,



Dr. W. N. Sage

Walter Noble Sage, B.A. (Toronto), M.A. (Oxford), Ph.D. (Toronto), became assistant professor, University of British Columbia, in 1918, associate professor in 1921, head of the Department of History in 1923-1953. In 1953 he was named Professor Emeritus of History, and special lecturer in History from 1953-1955.

Dr. Sage was born at London, Ontario, and educated at the London Collegiate Institute 1900-1904, 1905-1906; Magdalen College School, Oxford, England, 1904-1905; University of Toronto 1906-1910; Balliol College, Oxford, 1910-1913; University of Toronto 1922-1925. He has been a member of the Canadian Social Science Research Council since 1941, and of the Historic Sites & Monuments Board of Canada since 1943.

During World War I, he enlisted in England as private in the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in August, 1914; and served with Queen's University Contingent, C.O.T.C. 1915-17. In 1915 he was married to Miss Nelda Mackinnon of Calgary. They have one son and one daughter.

Dr. Sage is a member of many learned societies, has done much research work in Canadian history, and is the author of many articles, pamphlets and books, among the best-known of which are **Sir James Douglas and British Columbia** (1930), **British Columbia and the United States** (1942), **The Story of Canada** (a textbook, in collaboration with G. M. Wrong and Chester Martin, 1929).

1. Address delivered by Dr. W. N. Sage, at the annual meeting of the Okanagan Historical Society in Vernon on May 5, 1955.

V.I., and the Fraser River digging in the hectic spring and summer of 1858.

There has been always a certain obscurity about the date and place of birth of James Douglas. Some members of the Douglas family have claimed that Sir James was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, but the common tradition is that his birthplace was in Demerara, British Guiana. Dr. W. Kaye Lamb, Dominion Archivist and National Librarian of Canada, in a valuable article in the *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* for 1953¹ has shed new light on this obscure subject. According to Dr. Lamb, John Douglas Jr., 1772-1840, the father of Sir James, was a merchant of Glasgow who about 1800 went to Demerara on business. While there "he formed an attachment which resulted in a family of at least three children — two sons and a daughter." The name of James Douglas' mother is not known, but Mrs. Arthur Bushby, daughter of Sir James and Lady Douglas, who claimed that her father was born in Scotland, sent me information that her grandmother's maiden name was Ritchie. She did not, apparently, know her Christian name. John Tod in his manuscript *History of New Caledonia and the North West Coast*, preserved in the Provincial Archives at Victoria, B.C., stated that James Douglas' mother was Creole, or native born. It is often claimed that Sir James was a mulatto, or that his mother was a mulatto. The only statement which backs this up occurs in a letter of Letitia Hargrave written in 1842 that Douglas was "a mulatto son of the renowned Mrs. Douglass of Glasgow."² Dr. Lamb remarks that "Mrs. Hargrave scarcely knew Douglas himself and her evidence is very far from being conclusive."³ A few years ago an article appeared in MacLean's Magazine entitled "The Mulatto King of British Columbia" but the author was unable to quote any other authority than Mrs. Hargrave. Sir George Simpson called Douglas a Scotch West Indian but he gave no hint of mixed blood. The bust of Sir James Douglas preserved in the Provincial Archives at Victoria, B.C. possibly exhibits some mulatto traits, but the subject is too

1. W. Kaye Lamb, "Some notes on the Douglas Family", **British Columbia Historical Quarterly**, Jan.-Apr. 1953, (Victoria, B.C. Queen's Printer 1954) pp. 41-51.

2. Margaret Arnett MacLeod, ed. **The Letters of Letitia Hargrave**, Toronto, The Champlain Society, 1947, p. 132.

3. Lamb, loc. cit. p. 43



Sir James Douglas
Photo courtesy Provincial Archives

obscure to admit of a final answer. A Creole did not usually have mixed blood. The term was applicable to anyone born in an overseas European colony. The term "Creole" seems to have been used in Louisiana much as that of "habitant" was employed in New France. A well-known French dictionary defines "Creole" as "a person of pure white race born in the colonies."⁴ This rather long discussion of Douglas' birth and the possibility of his having had mulatto blood has been necessary because legends die hard. Probably the old Scottish verdict of "not proven" covers the case better than anything else. On one point, however, we now can be sure. Dr. Lamb has shown without a doubt, that John Douglas was married in Glasgow on January 14, 1809 to Miss Jessie Hamilton of Greenock. James Douglas' mother, to employ a term commonly used in the fur

4. *Nouveau Petit Larousse Illustré*, Paris, 1937, p. 252.

trade, was John Douglas' "country wife." This fact may explain the difficulties which I encountered over thirty years ago when I was attempting to get information from members of the Douglas family regarding Sir James' mother.

Young James Douglas obtained his early schooling in Lanark, Scotland, and possibly also at Chester in England. His French tutor was an *emigre* and James seems to have been an apt pupil. In 1818 his brother, Alexander Douglas, entered the service of the North West Company and in 1819 James followed suit. He left Liverpool on May 7 on board the *Matthews* and arrived at Quebec, after a seven weeks' voyage, on June 28. The winter of 1819-20 he spent at Fort William, the depot of the North West Company, on Lake Superior. In 1820 he was sent inland to Ile à la Crosse in what is now northern Saskatchewan. He remained at Ile à la Crosse until 1825 when he was transferred west of the Rockies to New Caledonia. During Douglas' stay at Ile à la Crosse the union of the North West and Hudson's Bay Companies took place in 1821 and young James began his long career as a Hudson's Bay Company man. His brother Alexander, in 1824, left the company's service for which he seemed none too well fitted. In the summer of 1825 James Douglas was in charge of Fort Vermilion, Peace River, and in the autumn crossed the mountains.

For five years Douglas remained in New Caledonia, spending most of his time at Fort St. James, Stuart Lake. As early as 1826 he had attracted the favourable attention of Chief Factor William Connolly who was in charge of the district. He accompanied Connolly and the brigade in 1826 from Fort St. James to Fort Vancouver, the recently established post on the Columbia and returned in the autumn. The next year, 1827, Douglas established a new post for the company at Bear Lake, also known as Connolly's Lake, in the country of the Sekani tribe. The winter of 1827-28 he spent at Fort St. James. Apparently he was dissatisfied at his slow rate of progress in the company's service and gave notice of his intention to retire when his three-year contract ran out in the summer of 1828. He did not retire but renewed his contract on more favourable terms. By this time Douglas had found his life's partner in the person of Amelia Connolly, daughter of William and Suzanne Connolly. In an old account book, now preserved in the Provincial Archives at

Victoria, Douglas made the following simple entry, "1828, April 27, Married." In 1837, at Fort Vancouver, James and Amelia Douglas were formally married by the rites of the Church of England by the Reverend Herbert Beaver, chaplain to the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company. In 1828 there was no clergyman of any religious denomination stationed at Fort St. James. Twice during that eventful year, 1828, Douglas was attacked by the Carrier Indians, once at Fort St. James and on the other occasion at Fraser Lake. He had, apparently, not yet learned to keep his fiery temper under rigid control, but he profited from these bitter experiences and ever afterwards seems to have known how to deal with the red men. The "tumult with Indians," as Douglas terms it in his notes in the old account book, occurred on August 6, 1828 when Connolly was absent with the brigade for the Columbia. On September 17 of that year Governor George Simpson arrived at Fort St. James on his way from York Factory on Hudson Bay to Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River. As Connolly was still away it fell to the lot of James Douglas to welcome Governor Simpson and his party. Connolly arrived back that afternoon, so that Douglas' moment of glory was brief indeed.

The Minutes of the Council of the Northern Department of Rupert's Land for 1829 contain the following resolution:

"That C. F. Connolly be directed to take the necessary measures to forward James Douglas, clerk to the Columbia, with the utmost expedition after the receipt of this instruction as that Gentleman is appointed to the Office of Accountant at Fort Vancouver."⁵ Connolly had, without doubt, suggested this transfer to Simpson because of the hatred which the Carriers seemed to bear to Douglas.⁶

A new day dawned for James Douglas on the Columbia. From 1830 to 1846 his superior officer was Dr. John McLoughlin, "the Father of Oregon." This eminent Irish-Scottish-French-Canadian did much for Douglas who rapidly became his *alter ego*.

5. R. H. Fleming, ed. **Minutes of Council, 1821-1831**, Toronto, The Champlain Society, 1940, p. 241, and also London, Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1940. (H.B. Co. Series III).

6. E. E. Rich ed. **McLoughlin's Fort Vancouver Letters, Third Series**, Toronto, The Champlain Society, 1944, App. B. p. 312, and also London, Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1944 (H.B. Co. Series VII).

The two were really very dissimilar. McLoughlin was a Celt who possessed a fairly large amount of French-Canadian blood, and who maintained to the full the semi-feudal splendour of a Hudson's Bay chief factor. James Douglas was basically a Lowland Scot, canny, industrious, enjoying the privileges of office, but always careful not to excite the enmity or envy of his superior officers. Dr. McLoughlin disliked Governor Simpson and took very few pains to conceal the fact. Sir George Simpson on his part, was very critical of McLoughlin and did not trust his judgment. As the years passed the breach between these two giants of the fur trade steadily widened and finally resulted in McLoughlin's resignation in 1845. It was quite typical of James Douglas that he quarrelled with neither Simpson nor McLoughlin but continued to enjoy the respect and confidence of both. When McLoughlin took a year's furlough in 1838-39 and went to England, James Douglas was placed in charge of Fort Vancouver and acquitted himself extremely well. In 1834 the Council of the Northern Department recommended Douglas' promotion to the commissioned office of chief trader and five years later to the exalted rank of chief factor. By 1840 James Douglas was one of the lords of the fur trade. He had had a hard fight for recognition but he had found it on the Columbia.

It was during his stay at Fort Vancouver that Douglas first encountered the incoming American missionaries and settlers. In the early 1840's "the covered waggons creaked the plains across "bringing the American settlers to Oregon and on May 2, 1843 the provisional government was proclaimed at Champoege on the Willamette River "until the United States of America extend their jurisdiction over us." In 1845 McLoughlin and Douglas agreed that the Hudson's Bay Company should join in with the Provincial government provided that certain conditions which they named were met. The Oregon Treaty of 1846 settled the boundary question, but it also rang the death knell for the Hudson's Bay Company south of this newly formed International Boundary.

Already in 1842, acting under orders from the Council of the Northern Department of Rupert's Land, James Douglas had chosen a site for a new depot for the Hudson's Bay Company on Vancouver Island and in the spring of 1843 he superintended

the construction of Fort Victoria. In spite of American claims that the 49th parallel be the boundary to the Pacific Ocean, Great Britain retained all of Vancouver Island. James Douglas had chosen the site well and the Hudson's Bay Company had used all its influence with the British government.

In 1849 Douglas moved his wife and family from Fort Vancouver to Fort Victoria. During the same year the Hudson's Bay Company obtained a royal grant of the newly formed colony of Vancouver Island. A royal governor, Richard Blanshard, arrived in March, 1850 and officially proclaimed the new colony. He found, however, that Chief Factor James Douglas was the real ruler of the island and in 1851 the royal governor departed leaving Douglas as senior member of the Council of Vancouver Island. The British government bowed to the inevitable and appointed James Douglas the second governor of Vancouver Island. Douglas was able to combine quite satisfactorily the duties of chief factor and governor. The colony did not progress very rapidly. As Judge Howay once drily remarked: "It was not intended that it should." A gold flurry in the Queen Charlottes in 1852 resulted in Douglas receiving a commission as lieutenant-governor of the Queen Charlotte Islands, and in his first attempts to manage a gold rush. In 1856 as the result of the orders of the Colonial Office in London, Douglas reread his commission and instructions and summoned a legislative assembly, the first assembly in British North America west of the Great Lakes.

The great gold rush of 1858 to Fraser River was Douglas' great testing time. He had his plans ready and as the nearest British official and also as a chief factor of the Hudson's Bay Company he did what he could to curb the incoming gold miners. He had seen the Americans take over Oregon and he was determined that they should not have the new gold fields north of the International Boundary. He wrote lengthy despatches to the Colonial Office in London, and fortunately for all concerned these despatches were read and acted upon. Douglas made mistakes, especially when he tried to uphold the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company, but fortunately for him, and for British Columbia, a new Secretary of State for the colonies took office in June, 1858 in the person of the well-known novelist, Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton.

Lytton saw at once that a new colony, completely separated from the Hudson's Bay Company, should be established right away on the mainland. He therefore prepared legislation for the colony of New Caledonia. Fortunately, he consulted Her Majesty Queen Victoria who suggested that the name of the colony be British Columbia. Lytton offered Douglas the governorship of British Columbia provided that he divested himself of all his interests in and connections with the Hudson's Bay Company and its subsidiary the Puget Sound Agricultural Company. Douglas agreed to these terms and the Imperial Act of August 2, 1858, created the Crown Colony of British Columbia. With characteristic thoroughness Lytton sent out a special detachment of the Royal Engineers under the command of Colonel R. C. Moody who was given a dormant commission as lieutenant-governor and an active appointment as Commissioner of Lands and Works of British Columbia. The Royal Engineers were to assist in the opening up of the new gold colony. To Colonel Moody fell the task of choosing the site for the capital of British Columbia. In 1859 he picked New Westminster. Once again Her Majesty kindly furnished the name. Lytton also sent out Judge Matthew Baillie Begbie to take charge of the legal problems of the new colony. It was also a fortunate selection.

James Douglas was governor of both colonies from 1858 to his retirement in 1864. He lived in Victoria and very seldom visited the mainland. He was sworn in by Judge Begbie at Fort Langley in the rain on November 19, 1858, and he lived in New Westminster for a brief period in 1864. Governor Douglas and Colonel Moody did not agree well together, but Douglas had a real admiration for Judge Begbie. Lytton also sent out some valuable officials especially Chartres Brew who helped to form the first police force in British Columbia, and later was a magistrate in Cariboo.

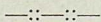
Although his commission and instructions empowered him to summon a legislature in British Columbia, they also allowed him to legislate by proclamation and to keep control of the government in his own hands. It was probably wise that Douglas was given these enormous powers especially when it is remembered how very unstable and fluctuating a mining population is. As New Westminster and the other towns on Fraser

River and in Cariboo grew and prospered in the early 1860's, demands for representative institutions became louder and louder, and petition after petition was forwarded to London. At length the Colonial Office ordered Douglas to summon a legislative council composed of officials, magistrates and certain elected representatives. The Legislative Council of British Columbia met in 1864 at New Westminster just before Sir James Douglas — he had been knighted in 1863 — retired from office.

Douglas was a "king of roads." The greatest, of course, was the Cariboo Road built between 1862 and 1865 and connecting Yale at the head of navigation on Fraser River with Barkerville, the centre of the Cariboo gold fields. But Douglas also planned, although he could not build, a waggon road crossing British Columbia from the coast to the Kootenays.

After he retired in 1864 Sir James Douglas visited the British Isles, France, Spain and Italy. He returned in 1865 and settled down quietly at James Bay, Victoria, V.I. He took no active part in politics, but privately he was known to express his feelings. During the years he had amassed a fair amount of property, most of it farm land in the vicinity of Victoria which he had purchased at the up-set price of £1.0.0 per acre. It was a thoroughly legitimate real estate venture, but Sir James was Lowland Scot enough to reap a rich harvest. When he died on August 2, 1877, he was probably by far the richest man in British Columbia.

During the last six years of his life Sir James Douglas was technically a Canadian. No doubt he felt some interest and possibly a certain loyalty to the Canadian Dominion, but he was at heart a Vancouver Islander and a British Columbian. He had played a mighty role on a small stage during the formative years of our province. If his steady hand had not been on the helm of the ship of state it is quite possible that British Columbia might now be the State of Columbia and that Canada would not have reached the Pacific.



Study the past if you would divine the future. — Confucius.

A Tribute To The Native

Thomas H. Ainsworth¹

They climbed our early ships and marvelled then
At all the tawdry things we brought for trade;
And seeing them as neolithic men,
We set them in a lower human grade.
And through this old disparity of race,
We owe to them encouragement to reach
The disconcerting measure of our pace,
And jointly share the Progress that we preach.

How did they fare before our traders came
With guns and beads and cloth of gaudy hue?
A thousand years their pattern was the same,
They still recall the plenitude they knew.
Here in a timeless age they made their tools,
Of stone with stone to shape the giant trees
For nets to catch the teeming salmon schools,—
Canoes to hunt the whale through stormy seas.

They dug the shellfish from the tidal bay,
In forests dark they stalked the leaping deer;
They met the lurking dangers night or day,
Conditioned by a code to have no fear.
The trophies that we show attest our skill,
The deadly highpower rifle gave us dare;
Yet with the bow and barb they made their kill,
And put to rout the cougar and the bear.

In days of old above our castle moats,
When banners made the deeds of valour known,
The Native Race whose signs adorned their boats,
Showed pride of Clan the equal of our own.
And now throughout the world their crafts are shown:
The fabrics that they wove from wool and bark,
In what they carved from stone and wood and bone,
Their genius of old has left its mark.

1. Thomas H. Ainsworth, F.R.S.A., F.R.A.I., is secretary of the (Vancouver) Art, Historical and Scientific Association, and curator of Vancouver City Museum. Mr. Ainsworth takes every opportunity to imbue the members of our Native Race, particularly the younger generation, with a sense of pride in their past achievements, for when a race is conscious of its traditions it assumes a dignity which brings recognition.

Enderby Incorporated In 1905

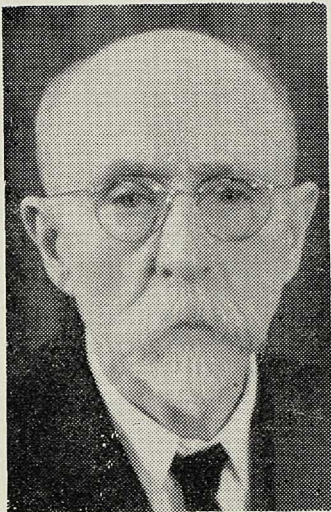
M. Pidoborozny

Even in primeval times the site of Enderby must have appeared to be a place to stay, rather than country to be passed through. The cliffs that rise across the river; the river itself, that turns sharply there and with a branching slough makes a junction of waters and the valley that, approached from the north becomes suddenly wider, all make the place a natural meeting place for men. It is accessible.

The first white settlers found this to be the case. River traffic from Sicamous to Mara and Enderby, and the stage routes through Westwold to Kamloops fed the movement of settlers into the south of the valley; but to Enderby fell the rightful honour of being the first settlement. As a city it has now been here for fifty years, a distinction it shares in the Shuswap and Okanagan with Salmon Arm and Kelowna.

Incorporation, on March 1, 1905, was accomplished amid lively dispute as to the wisdom of the action. The first mayor, George Bell, and his council, Messrs. Evans, Kenney, Bradley, Sharpe and Smith, had no simple task. The total receipts of the city for the first year were just under \$2,700, and an alert citizenry were demanding a waterworks system. Water was at that time sold and delivered by the barrel, and there was no agreement as to the best way to bring water in. Fred Barnes, (now living in retirement at Debert, N.S., at the age of 97) then headed those who opposed incorporation, as he deemed the settlement too small to assume civic responsibility. At the same time he set an example in co-operation once the city was formed and he became an alderman on the second council and, later, was third mayor of the city. In 1906 the waterworks system was put in by the city which issued debentures for \$20,000 for this purpose.

Graham Rosoman was engaged at the first council meeting in April, 1905, as city clerk and collector, an office he held until August, 1939, when he was succeeded by his daughter Miss Hazel Rosoman, the present incumbent. To this gentleman and



Graham Rosoman

Photo Courtesy
The Enderby Commoner

his daughter whom he trained for her position, the city owes much for the continuity in management and the background of knowledge of the city that both have given with devoted service.

In 1904 the pioneer newspaperman H. M. Walker founded the *Edenograph*, the city's first newspaper which he sold in 1905 to Fraser Brothers who continued the publication as *The Enderby Progress* until 1907. They in turn sold it to Mr. Walker whose interest in Enderby had never flagged. At first *Walker's Weekly*, then during the years of World War I *The Okanagan Commoner*

(serving Armstrong as well, and published by Carey Bros.) and then as *The Enderby Commoner*, the paper reflected Mr. Walker's lively and fearless journalistic ability. This gave the *Commoner* a strong place in the development of the town and its character. Mr. Walker (1871-1944) sold his paper in 1941 to F. S. Rouleau and under succeeding owners it still continues. At the time of writing there is every possibility that its earlier issues may be preserved on microfilm, as the Provincial Archivist is now seriously considering this step.

The Bank of Montreal, still the city's only bank, was established in 1905. In 1905 the city also had the services of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway which had succeeded the riverboat *Red Star* as the city's best means of transportation. The *Red Star* (master, Captain D. G. Cumming, Engineer George Folkard) was a paddle steamer plying the Spallumcheen (now Shuswap) River from Sicamous to Enderby, and her hulk is now on the riverbottom at Enderby, not far from her former mooring place. The Columbia Flouring Mills, thriving in 1905 as it had for many years, was the reason for the *Red Star*.

R. P. Rithet, who purchased the mill from its builder Mr. Rashdale, had the boat put in commission in order to carry out flour, "Moffat's Best," named for the manager. The old steamer was, however, long out of use when Enderby was incorporated, as the railway took over her duties of passenger and freight carrier in the late 1880's.

A two room school served the town in 1905, and the assistant to the principal, H. McDonald, was Miss M. V. Beattie. Enderby's first major school building since 1915 (The Fortune School) was completed in 1954 and was named the M. V. Beattie School in honour of this lady's lifetime of service which ended with her retirement in Kamloops where she now lives.

A Roman Catholic mission church (later destroyed by lightning) was the first church in Enderby, and was situated just south of town near the Indian graveyard. A. L. Fortune (1831-1915), a staunch Presbyterian and the first settler in the district, shared amicably with the priests the task of teaching Christianity to the Indians. The Presbyterian Church (now St. Andrew's United Church) was built in 1906. A monument to Mr. Fortune, the first Presbyterian elder in the Okanagan, stands upon the church grounds. (The date of his birth on this monument is given as 1831 although some records have it as 1830). Of Mr. Fortune himself, enough has been written to make repetition unnecessary, but his history as a member of the Overlanders and his arrival as first settler in Enderby in 1866, his subsequent success as a farmer and his energetic attention to the spiritual welfare of the place, all merit remembrance, and must be included in any story of Enderby. At the time of the city's incorporation he was one of the most prosperous farmers in the district.

St. George's Anglican Church, the oldest church in the valley remaining on its original site (St. James's in Armstrong is older, but was moved from Lansdowne) was in 1905 served by Rev. F. V. Venables. Rev. A. E. Roberts was Methodist minister at that time, and Rev. D. Campbell was, in 1905, the Presbyterian minister.

Dr. J. E. Bentley, to be succeeded next year by Dr. Verner, was physician to the town and in 1907 Dr. H. W. Keith began the twenty-six years of service that makes his name well-loved

Enderby Incorporated In 1905

in Enderby to this day. Both Enderby Lodge No. 40, A.F. & A.M. and Eureka Lodge No. 50, I.O.O.F. were founded in Enderby in 1905, and the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 35 received its charter on December 29th, 1904.

Industry at the time of incorporation included the Enderby brick yard which provided brick for all the older brick buildings in Enderby including the City Hall (built 1909). Logging and dairy farming, which continue of paramount importance, were also well established.

The years that have followed have been the natural out-growth of these beginnings. The farming area has been increased by a notable development of the area between Enderby and Mabel Lake, with the older farms in the main part of the valley living up to their early promise. Two world wars and the depression halted the town's growth as they halted that of other towns.

Since World War II the city has again prospered. Besides the new school, the city has a new and modern hospital. The old King Edward Hotel, which was destroyed by fire, has been replaced by the new Enderby Hotel. There is an up-to-date movie-house, The Monarch, built by the late K. Samol. The Lions Club has given the city a new Health Centre building, and a community swimming pool at Barnes Playground (named for Fred Barnes who donated the site). The United Church has a new and modern manse, the Fraternal Societies Hall is jointly owned by Masonic and Oddfellows Lodges, there is a new C.P.R. station, and an impressive array of new buildings for both business and residential purposes: all of this built since the war, and indicating an active community that looks backward proudly and looks forward with confidence.

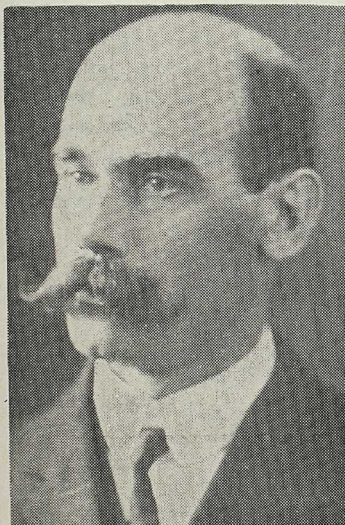
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Give me room! Give me air! cries the man who has been in the wilds; the man who knows, whose eyes have looked over vast territories and become accustomed to the glare of the sun and the snow, whose blood glows at the touch of the breeze, whose heart gladdens at the cry of the wild.—*Canada, The Land of Hope*, by E. Eay Elkington (London, 1910).

Enderby's Mayors

1905-1910—*George Bell.
1911-1913—*John L. Ruttan.
1913-1914—Fred H. Barnes.
1915 —*Samuel Polson.
1915-1916-1918—*Frank B. Dill.
1918 (from May 3)—Acting Mayor *Richard J. Coltart.
1919-1921—Fred H. Barnes.
1921-1922—*George H. Smedley.
1922 (from June 28)—Acting Mayor *R. J. Coltart.
1923 —*Samuel Polson.
1924 —*James F. Johnson.
1925-1944—*Charles Hawkins.
1944-1946—Geo. E. McMahon.
1947-1949—W. H. Logan.
1949 to (from Sept. 2) 1955—N. S. Johnson.

* Deceased.



**Enderby's First Mayor
George Bell**

Photo courtesy
The Enderby Commoner



**Enderby's Present Mayor
N. S. Johnson**

Photo courtesy
The Enderby Commoner

*Early Days In Enderby*¹

Reg Hadow

If I were asked what has changed most during the fifty-two years I have lived in this district—my reply would be—the roads. It is difficult for the present generation who now travel for the most part on broad straight hard-surfaced highways to realize what the roads were like fifty years ago. Many of the main roads were in reality little better than trails. So narrow in some places that a buggy or wagon had difficulty in passing each other. None of the roads were gravelled with the result that in summer the dust on the surface was inches deep. In the fall and spring owing to the deep ruts the roads were almost impassable especially when they were frozen. If there had been any wind it was always advisable to bring along an axe and crosscut saw as there were frequently trees blown down and lying across the roads. The making and repairing of the roads was mostly done by farmers who gladly took the opportunity of working off their taxes. The road gang usually consisted of a road foreman, maybe half a dozen men with axes, cant hooks, saws, etc.; a team and scraper and a powder man whose job it was to blow out the stumps. I always noticed when the going got really tough the road got correspondingly narrower.

I took up a homestead in the fall of 1903 situated about half way between Salmon Arm and Enderby, about a mile back from the main road. Like many other bachelor homesteaders I think my original idea was to have a shack I could den up in

Priceless Asset—Youth And Optimism

Looking back on those youthful days I often wonder how we youngsters had the colossal nerve to take up our bush homesteads with the intention of eventually converting them into a home and a farm. We must have realized to a great extent what we were letting ourselves in for. But I think one thing appealed to all of us—we were our own bosses working on our own land. We also had that priceless asset—youth

1. Reprinted from the **Enderby Commoner**, July 1, 1955, Golden Jubilee anniversary issue.

and the optimism and energy that goes with it. Of course there were no bull-dozers then. All the land clearing had to be done yard by yard by hand labour. First of all we had to hack a road into the homestead. Then get out logs for a cabin; make shakes for the roof; dig a well and later start clearing land; put up a barn, woodshed, implement shed; split cedar logs for rails and fencing—all of which took years to accomplish.

Until the advent of the motor vehicles and modern farm machinery the whole tempo of time was perceptibly slower than it is today. If one met a neighbour when driving to town the two buggies would draw up alongside each other and proceed to exchange the latest gossip and news of the district. There was no unnecessary rush on our local train either. I recollect one day in 1903 when I was at Armstrong waiting for the train to take me back to Enderby. On the arrival of the train, about half a dozen men got off and made a bee line for the bar-room. A few minutes later the train continued on its journey north leaving the thirsty gang behind. Some one must have notified them the train had gone. They all ran to the station yelling and waving their hats. But by that time the train had travelled a considerable distance along the line. I can only suppose that some member of the train crew saw in the distance the gesticulating men and notified the engine driver. Anyway gradually the train came to a stop and then slowly backed down the line to Armstrong, picked up the happy gang and proceeded on its way.

Before Motoring Days—Walking Was Vogue

Before the days of motoring we all used our legs to an extent that must sound incredible to the modern generation. We were all great walkers. I remember walking from my homestead to Armstrong and on another occasion to Notch Hill. In those days nobody thought a jaunt like that unusual. I recollect my reason for walking to Notch Hill and Armstrong was to save the price of a railway ticket. We homesteaders were invariably hard up and quite frequently flat broke.

Fifty years ago any man who was ready to work and rough it could start on a homestead almost on the proverbial shoe string. The material for his building (logs) he could get off his place. Also the roofing—shakes. All the buildings on

farms were erected with the help of neighbours. That was called a "Bee", which I understand is an ancient Saxon word meaning "a gathering together"—and that's just what it was, a gathering together of one's neighbours who rallied round on the appointed day armed with axes, saws, peevies, cant hooks, etc. No machinery was used, often not even a team. All the logs were man handled. It was astonishing what a lot of work could be accomplished and how quickly a building went up. I've been present at many "bees" at Deep Creek, Grandview, at farms along the river and elsewhere. I think it's a remarkable fact that in spite of men working for hours in unaccustomed positions with sharp axes—hoisting by hand heavy logs to considerable heights—working on roofs, etc., I never saw or heard of a single accident or mishap. The neighbours gave their help free and they were jolly or sociable affairs, and all the time the building was going up there was much talking, laughter and swapping of jokes and reminiscences.

In some respects I think Enderby is a quieter place (socially) than it was in the old days. In those times there were far more entertainments and sociable gatherings than there are today. In winter there were numerous dances, private as well as public. The first (public) dance I went to was held in a large room that I think eventually became Fred Barnes' workshop. When that was no longer available, a hall in the upper storey of the Bell Block—recently burned down—came into use for dances, political meetings, etc. There were also concerts and plays staged by local talent. Also there were numerous private dances out in the country given by Mr. and Mrs. Stroulger (senior), Mr. and Mrs. Henry Greyell (in Enderby), Mr. and Mrs. Pounds, Mr. and Mrs. Salt and Mr. and Mrs. H. Waby. They were all real homey and enjoyable little gatherings at which "a good time was had by all." The music was supplied by gramophone, a violin or in any emergency a mouth organ filled in very well.

Social Life Full In Early Days

Mr. and Mrs. Butchart got up skating parties on a large slough (now drained and under cultivation) situated not far from Grindrod. They were a great success and very enjoyable. In latter years Mrs. Livingstone—whom many of you will remem-

ber—got up Reviews which were staged at the K.P. Hall. Mrs. Livingstone had a decided talent for organizing that form of entertainment. The shows she put on would have done credit to a city much larger than Enderby. All the talent was local and under her able direction the acting, dances, costumes and scenery were excellent.

Going to a dance or some other festivity in the winter was a very different affair to what it is today. There was no such thing as a quick trip in a comfortable well-heated car. Going to a dance wasn't so bad even if one did travel behind a horse in an open cutter. It was the trip back in the early hours of the morning, perhaps in sub zero weather, that often amounted to a feat of endurance. I remember one occasion arriving home so paralyzed with cold I had considerable difficulty unhitching and unharnessing my team and vowing in the future I would cut out all night gaieties. In less than a week I was on the road again to another "hop."

I hope I haven't given the idea that we oldtimers spent most of our time enjoying ourselves at some form of festivity. There are elderly folks in this district now who in years gone by had a long, hard and grim struggle to feed and clothe their families. In 1905 there were none of the numerous government gratuities that nowadays help to tide over hard times; no old age pensions, children's allowance, hospital and unemployment insurance, etc. Farm produce brought very small returns and sometimes we could not sell our goods at any price. If we worked out to bring in a little cash, the wages we received were a mere fraction of what they are today. On the other hand, of course, everything we bought was considerably cheaper than it is today. But all the same, the going was pretty tough at times. To the young folks of today our mode of plain and simple living with its long hours of work would be intolerable. Yet taking it all in all we were a happy and contented lot.

Here's a little incident I recollect that was either a sample of the free and easy ways of the early days or perhaps a joke played by some of the boys on a neighbour. One day in the summer of 1906 I was riding along the Deep Creek Road. Passing a one room shack, I noticed a bit of paper with writing

on it tacked to the door. Curiosity made me dismount and investigate. The door was locked and no one around. Apparently the owner of the shack had got into some trouble with the law. The local provincial policeman had driven out to Deep Creek to arrest and bring the man back with him to Enderby. But the wanted man was not at home. So, the "cop" had left a polite note attached to the door requesting the wanted man to come to Enderby and give himself up, as the policeman explained—He didn't want the trouble of making another trip to Deep Creek.

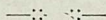
Warm Tribute To Pioneer Women

No reference to the early days would be complete without a warm tribute to the pioneer women of half a century ago. They were wonderful and deserve just as much credit as the men in helping to develop this district. They endured hardship, loneliness and long hours of monotonous work with none of the numerous labour saving gadgets that are now considered necessities in almost every house today. In spite of living under trying and difficult conditions somehow they made the interior of the rough log shacks of the pioneer farms into comfortable and attractive homes and frequently helped considerably with the out-door work. It was my privilege and good fortune to know a number of those pioneer women. I shall always remember them as courageous, hospitable and kind-hearted.

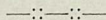
Recently I had a pleasant chat with my old friend Harry Naylor (Senior) of Deep Creek who came to the Okanagan in 1889—sixty-six years ago. It is difficult to realize what an empty and sparsely-settled country it was in those days. Harry got off the train at Sicamous. The only way to travel south was by steamer up the river, which made the trip every other day. However, Harry decided to walk to Enderby—a distance of 25 miles which he accomplished in one day with a 30-pound pack on his shoulder. (Remember I mentioned previously that the oldtimers were good foot sloggers). The fact that impressed me most was Harry's remark that during the whole twenty-five mile journey from Sicamous to Enderby, he only passed two houses! One at Mara and the other a shack situated on the property now owned by John May. I often think what a pity it is that some one with a gift for writing can't take the time and

trouble to jot down the recollections of the few remaining pioneers who have so many interesting and stirring memories of the rugged days previous to 1905.

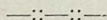
Finally—What of the girls of fifty years ago—the ones we youngsters used to meet at the picnics and socials—the “love-lies” we danced and skated with? Tempus fugit—time flies and the majority of you are now greyhaired grandmothers. But don’t let that worry you “girls.” Believe me you are all—yes, everyone of you—just as charming today as you were in those brave old days of long ago!



The fur brigades and the miners’ pack trains have long since given way, first to the steamboats and railways, then later, when rough trails developed into smooth highways, to motorized and high-speed traffic, and all of these carry the products of mine, forest and farm to the markets of the world. The old-time adventurous and thrilling days of exploration, fur trading and placer mining are gone and with them has perished something that will never live again.—Clara Graham in *Fur and Gold in the Kootenays* (Vancouver, 1945). Compare with this Mildred Cable in *The Gobi Desert* (London, 1942), p.301: “They can conquer the desert spaces and shatter its silences, but they can never capture its magic charm, and those who have been disciplined and instructed by its austerity still find that the elusive spirit of the desert can call them at will, to roam again in the Gobi that once was.”



It is to live twice, when we enjoy the recollections of our former life—Martial.



Rich as we are in biography, a well-written life is almost as rare as a well-spent one; and there are certainly many more men whose history deserves to be recorded than persons able and willing to furnish the record. — Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)

*Enderby In Early Days Of Incorporation*¹

Mrs. Harry Preston

I arrived in Enderby in 1906 with my young son who was 11 months old, after a long journey from Lancashire, England. Mr. Preston, who came to Enderby in 1905, met us at the station. The train at that time ran from Sicamous to Vernon one day and back the next. It was very slow and did not always run on schedule.

The roads were just wagon trails, very muddy in the spring and hard to find in the winter time. There were no snow plows, the first sleigh or cutter out broke the trail. If they met anyone on foot it was the pedestrian who stepped out in the snow to let the sleigh or wagon pass, for fear it would spill its load if it got off the road. When people ventured out after dark they all carried storm lanterns. Without the landmarks we have today it was very easy to get lost during winter storms.

We seemed to have a lot more snow in those years and the river used to freeze over all the time. All the farmers put up their own ice. They cut most of it near Miss Cox's present property and stored it in their own sawdust shed. We were closer to our North Enderby neighbours then, because we could cross on the ice. I remember walking across the river where Palmers now live to attend parties at Mrs. Currie's home (she lives in Vernon now) and also at Miss Queenie Parks' home. It was not unusual for young folk to skate from Mara to Enderby.

At this time Enderby had the small station; two hotels, the King Edward and the Enderby Hotel better known as the Webb Wright Hotel); one butcher store; a livery barn; the Trading Post, where you bought everything from a pen to harness; a drug store; three grocery stores with no deliveries; a furniture store; jewelry store; two restaurants; a two-room school; a bank; a small post office; a brick yard; a sawmill that hired about two

1. Reprinted from the **Enderby Commoner**, July 1, 1955, Golden Jubilee anniversary issue.

hundred workers (a good portion of them were Chinese, Japanese and Hindus); two blacksmith shops; a boarding house for mill workers; and three churches, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian. We had a doctor but the nearest hospital was at Vernon.

When loggers came in from the bush the town was very busy and very noisy. They handed their pay cheques over to the proprietor to keep for their board and all the drinks they needed which were plenty. When it was all spent they would go back to work again to make more; this was the kind of life they liked.

Enderby made a name for herself in those days and was definitely on the map. The farmers went in for fruit growing and Enderby, believe it or not, took quite a few prizes, including the Banksian Medal. They also took the highest award for dessert apples at the Royal Horticultural Show in London, England, and their potatoes the highest award at the Dry Farming Congress at Lethbridge.

In later years the bottom fell out of the market for apples. After the expense of pruning, spraying and buying boxes the farmers were billed for handling and storing of apples they could not sell. The fruit trees were removed to make room for grain and alfalfa which paid better.

One could get pork from the farmers at five and ten cents a pound, quarters of beef at five cents a pound for front quarters, and seven cents for hind quarters; chickens ready to go in the oven at thirty-five cents; eggs, ten cents and butter twenty. Farmers' wives thought they were lucky to get a bit of cash as most things were traded. Wheat was one dollar for a hundred pound sack. We once bought a ton of potatoes for four dollars. It was cheap feed for the pigs.

Wages were twenty-five cents an hour and you worked ten hours a day from six in the morning until six at night. My husband worked for Fred Barnes when he first came here and they were kept very busy building houses. It seems we were able to put up better meals on the table in those days than we can now earning ten or twelve dollars a day.

We had no cars, no theatres or dance halls to go to for entertainment. All the fun was your own making and people visited their neighbours more and were always ready to give a helping hand in time of sickness, to dig a well, feed a threshing crew, build a barn or join in a quilting bee.

Everyone was in bed between eight and nine for they had to be up at four-thirty or five in the morning.

On Sundays, most families went to church as that was the only time some of them got off the farm, to meet one another. Church committees raised money for the churches by having concerts and plays and people gave more generously than they do now under the present system.

They were just starting to do the ditching from Brash Creek to Enderby to bring a water system into Enderby when I came. The Chinese came to your door selling two coal oil cans full of water for twenty-five cents or fifty cents a barrel from the river. The water was precious and we used it for as many chores as possible, often bathing baby, washing clothes and scrubbing the floor before throwing it out.

When water did arrive in the main part of town most people had only a standpipe in their yard. Those who could afford plumbing in their homes had only cold water pipes for some time.

Historic Fire Is Recalled

On May 3, 1909, a terrible bush fire started from a spark from a freight train. It had been a hot dry summer and a wind fanned the grass into a blaze on the Fenton farm. From there it got a good start in a field of old cedar logs, travelled to the Stroulger farm burning a big new barn; jumped the river and travelled on to Grindrod, burning Mr. Knapp's entire farm and animals; then on to Mara, burning homes, barns, animals, crops and fences as it went.

Because of the suddenness of the fire and the swiftness and uncertainty of its course the farmers were left to fight their fires alone. As news could only travel by word of mouth in those days, it was not until the following day that Enderby knew of Mara's misfortune.

The Postmistress of Mara, Mrs. Rosoman, was an invalid at

Enderby In Early Days Of Incorporation

that time and was carried to a boat with a couple of blankets, minutes before her home and all contents of the post office were destroyed by fire. She spent the night in the boat, unable to return to land and with nothing to return to when she did.

Three bridges were burned and many homes were lost with all contents on each side of the river. The Enderby sawmill closed down so the men could fight fire. It was coming into the railway tracks by our place and my neighbour, Mr. Waby, kept his horse and buggy beside the house ready to take his wife out of danger. For days the fire kept breaking out again until the Lord took a hand and sent rain and lots of it.

First Great War Then Depression

In 1914 war broke out and people seemed to have more money. When the men came home again they began to buy property and fix up their homes. Many purchased homes under the Soldiers Settlement Board but found out later they could not make them pay, and gave them up.

Enderby settled into a depression, common at this time across the contry. The mill closed down and houses went back to the city for unpaid taxes. Many homes were bought for almost nothing and moved off to farms. Many people moved away.

It took another war to bring Enderby back to what it is today. People built more costly and modern homes, also more stores. Thanks to the late Mr. Samol, Enderby got its first theatre. Sawmills began to operate again making more work for the men. We now have lots of new schoolrooms for the young people and a chance to give them higher education which was very expensive and difficult to get, years ago, when parents had to send them out of town.

Just a few words on travel by air. I recall when it was a most radical idea and no one could believe it would reach the grand scale it has today to bring medical help, mail and luxury travel to our door-steps. Now we have jet planes and atomic bombs to make our heads swirl.

Would Not Care To Turn Clock Back

In summing up the difference between now and former

days I would say we used to have more social fellowship, because we used to seek and make our own amusement. In the modern age there are so many things to do and so many places to go, and not enough time to do them all.

Personally, I would not care to turn the clock back fifty years and be a pioneer again. I have no desire to return to the wash board, tin tubs and flat irons. Give me more modern appliances and lots of them say I, an old timer. Memories of our families growing up and pleasant friendships are our treasures of the past.

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Things without remedy should be with regard; what is done is done.—Shakespeare.

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Stirred up with high hopes of living to be brave men and worthy patriots, dear to God, and famous to all ages.—Milton.

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I used to go to my room at night and lie and think of the old days when there were buffalo and plenty of animals everywhere. At that time there were a lot of old men, and it was nice to be around. . . . Then I would think of what my grandfather used to tell me when I was a small child. He said that some day the white men would be everywhere on the plains. I did not believe him. He said that some day they would drive all the animals away; they would put up fences everywhere, and the Indian would have to camp in one place all the time. I did not believe him. But now I was beginning to realize that everything my grandfather had said was coming true—and I wondered if he could see it.—*Long Lance* (New York, 1928), p.277.

Enderby United Church History

When Enderby was incorporated as a city on the first of March, 1905, George Bell was elected first mayor. He was a prominent worker in the Methodist Church. Of course, the post office had been in operation since November 1, 1887, with Oliver Harvey as postmaster. As early as 1885 the townsite was called Belvidere; and before that Lambly's or Steamboat Landing, and Spallumcheen, its Indian name. From the earliest days of settlement the Church played an important part. Here we are concerned with the Presbyterian, Methodist and United Church histories of Enderby and district.

PRESBYTERIAN

There are six divisions in the Presbyterian story. After the first two, these correspond with the increasing importance of Enderby as a centre, and consequent decrease in area served by its ministers till it became a charge in its own right. Until 1911 it was part of the Spallumcheen field (Armstrong north to Sicamous). This was true also of the Methodist Church.

I, (1862-1875) The first division we date from the arrival of Alexander Leslie Fortune, who came to British Columbia with the Overlanders of '62. He finally located on the bank of the Spallumcheen River, as the Shuswap was called till 1901, alongside the Indian reserve. He was by nature a missionary, taught the Indians about the Great Spirit, and conducted open air Sunday school among their children, with the tacit support of the Roman Catholic priests. He was joined by Mrs. Fortune in 1874.

II. — (1875-1886) During these years Enderby enjoyed occasional visits from Rev. George Murray and Rev. John Chisholm. Mr. Murray, of the Church of Scotland, had arrived in Nicola in 1875, and a church was built there the following year. In 1884 Mr. Chisholm was asked to survey the territory between Nicola and the Rockies. One result was that at its March meeting in 1886 the Presbyterian Home Mission Board received a request for a missionary from "certain settlers in the Spallumcheen Valley."

III. — (1886-1889) The request was granted, and Rev. J. A. Jaffary appointed to serve North Okanagan, which included Enderby, Falkland, Glenemma, Vernon, Lumby, Okanagan Centre, Benvoulin, Kelowna and Rock Creek, thus including middle and south Okanagan as well. In *The Presbyterian Record*, January, 1911, Mrs. Jaffary gives dates of arrival and departure as July 15, 1886 and May 15, 1889. Mr. and Mrs. Jaffary remained three years, teaching, preaching and visiting the scattered ranchers. Cattle raising was the main industry of those days, when peavine and vetch grew up to the horse's stirrups, and there were no fences.

IV. — (1889-1907) During this period the field was reduced to include only Enderby, Armstrong, Salmon Arm (Hulcar), Falkland and Glenemma. The work was maintained by Revs. John Knox Wright, 1889-96; T. G. McLeod (who came with his bride) 1896-1902; and Duncan Campbell, who was inducted in 1902. As a result of a canvass made by J. K. Wright, Rev. Paul F. Langill arrived in 1890 to look after the rest of the field, with headquarters at Priests Valley (Vernon). Church Assembly minutes (1891, appendix) note progress made at Enderby, and that railway spur is being built from the main line south to the head of Okanagan Lake. The settlement at Lansdowne; hitherto mission headquarters, was moved three miles to Armstrong, new townsite on railway.

Services at Enderby were originally held in a small, plank building, situated on right-of-way for railway. During construction of the railway it was bought by T. W. Patterson, and removed for a section house. Thereafter, for a time, services were held in a frame building afterwards used as a residence.

A new church, costing \$1500, was erected in 1906 on a corner in the centre of Enderby. The manse at Enderby having been burned down in 1892, a new one was built at Armstrong during the ministry of Rev. T. G. McLeod. The same pastorate saw the erection of Zion Church at Armstrong in 1891. Rev. Duncan Campbell served from 1902-1913.

V. — (1907-1911) In 1907 the field was still further reduced in area, Rev. V. Akitt being appointed to Falkland and Glenemma, two points now on CNR (Kamloops to Kelowna branch).

VI. — (1911-1925) Enderby became an independent charge in 1911, Rev. Peter Henderson going to Armstrong, and Rev. Duncan Campbell remaining in Enderby. Two notable ministries followed: Revs. J. A. Dow 1913-1920, and J. V. Stott 1920-1925. This brings us to the time of Church Union.

METHODIST

Now we must review parallel progress in the Methodist Church. Outstanding dates in this history are the years 1887, 1891, 1911 and 1925.

Rev. James Turner had been ordained and stationed at New Westminster in 1873, and at Burrard Inlet the following year. Later, he became known as "The Minister of the Interior." In 1875 he was appointed to Nicola, where he remained five years, including Enderby and adjacent "points" in his far-flung charge. He went to Cariboo in 1880. Rev. J. W. Patterson was stationed at "Spallumcheen" May 1, 1884-April 30, 1886. Rev. J. P. Hicks was appointed to the field in 1891, with headquarters at Enderby, of which place he was the first resident Methodist minister. At that time the railway spur was not completed, so the journey was made (in part) by the river steamer *Red Star*, belonging to the B & K mill then operating at Enderby. Mr. Hicks preached his first Enderby sermon in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 3, 1891; and in a hall at Lansdowne that evening. He remained till 1893, touching practically every point in Okanagan. Rev. W. D. Misener arrived in 1893, and stayed till 1896, during which time the Methodist church was built (1894). Succeeding pastorates till 1911, when Armstrong became a separate Methodist charge, were (with dates of beginnings) Revs: W. Lashley Hall 1896, R. N. Powell 1899, R. J. McIntyre 1901, A. E. Roberts 1902, A. N. Miller 1905, W. A. Gifford 1908-1910 in which year the new brick church was opened, W. A. Gifford (1908) who resigned to accept the vice-principalship of Columbian College, C. F. Connor 1910-1911.

1911-1924, Enderby as a separate Methodist charge: Revs. R. D. Hall appointed in 1911; J. G. Brown 1912, J. W. Hedley 1914, J. I. Beatty 1915, E. C. Curry May-December 1916; during the next few years supply came from Armstrong (J. Wesley Miller) then came J. G. Gibson, 1920-1921, during which time church debt was wiped out, and use of drill hall secured for

young people's work. Thereafter, till 1925, "To be supplied."

UNITED CHURCH

At the time of local union in 1925, the Presbyterian and Methodist churches were represented by Revs. J. L. King and R. D. Hall. Mr. Hall resigned through illness, and Mr. King remained till 1929, when he was succeeded by Rev. J. A. Dow. In 1934 Rev. J. C. Thomson accepted a call. In addition to Enderby, he served Ashton Creek and Hullcar.

The longest pastorate was that of Rev. J. A. Dow, twelve years. In 1924 a monument was erected to the memory of Alexander Leslie Fortune at St. Andrew's Church in Enderby.

Rev. J. A. Leslie was appointed to the charge in 1938; followed by Revs. J. L. King as supply in 1940, W. J. Selder 1941, C. G. McKenzie 1946, Gilbert C. Johnson 1950, and the present minister, Rev. Hugh M. Irwin, M.A., in 1953.

On August 2, 1951, the new St. Andrew's manse was dedicated by Rev. F. E. Runnalls, President of Conference. In a letter dated October 10, 1951, Rev. G. C. Johnson stated: "Mr. R. Blackburn who was in charge of the building operation handed over the keys to Mr. Mack, and expressed his satisfaction at seeing the completion of a job well done, and his appreciation to the many who had helped with the job . . . A beautiful candle lighting ceremony of dedication concluded the service . . . The building was erected in three months at a cost of \$11,000."

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". . . In pioneer countries hospitality is a necessity of life, not to the travellers alone but to the settlers. A visitor is a friend, he brings news, good or bad, which is bread to the hungry minds in lonely places. A real friend who comes to the house is a heavenly messenger who brings the *panis angelorum*."—*Out of Africa* by Karen Blixen (Putnam, London, 1937) p.169.

Salmon Arm Municipal Jubilee Address

E. C. Turner

1

As Reeve of this splendid Municipality of Salmon Arm in its golden anniversary year, it is my great privilege and pleasure to extend congratulations to all its residents on the attainment of this important milestone. This I do with the utmost sincerity because I recall most vividly much of the progress that has been made during the past 50 years.

Fifty years — it makes one stop and reflect, doesn't it? Much the same as when a fellow reaches his 21st birthday. I recall my father telling me about the first years of this district. There must have been hard work at times to achieve what has been achieved, but people are inclined to remember best the humorous incidents.

I recall my father telling of the wood-burning CPR locomotives in those days and how they used to stack wood in two-foot lengths where the oil and gasoline tanks are now located across the tracks. It was a bit of a prize to get a CPR contract for about 100 cords at \$2.00 a cord in those days.

Most of the land was then in bush, of course. My father had 90 acres and he and Nels Eckland had slashed about 10 acres each during the winter ready for burning the following summer. They got more than they bargained for! No sooner had they set fire to the slashing than a sudden gale blew up and the fire spread east just past the present Skelton water tank, south as far as Merton Hill and north near Leech Hill. Everybody available fought fire. There were no fire permits then, quite different from today. This was in 1897 or '98 before the municipality was incorporated. My father said his provincial taxes came to \$2 a year, and he thought things were really getting expensive when they went up to \$5.

One thing strikes me about the general attitude of the people then, and that was the way they took time out to enjoy themselves. On one occasion Dad and some friends went to

1. Reprinted from the **Salmon Arm Observer**, May 26, 1955.

Salmon Arm Municipal Jubilee Address

Shuswap station, the other side of Chase, to help someone they knew celebrate his birthday. When they got there they learned someone else would have a birthday in a week's time so they just stayed over. Then they used to go hunting on the Larch Hills for grouse in August, something you can't do now. They also went prospecting in the summer on Mount Bastion and Mount Ida.

People really did turn out to exercise their right to vote then. There used to be a good sized sawmill, on the lake right below the present Kault Hill lookout point, and Dad said the fellows in the camp used to walk into the one polling station that was used for provincial and Dominion voting.

My father and a fellow just out from England lived in a cabin where W. J. Reader's house is now located. I remember him telling of their coming back to the cabin and finding a skunk had taken over. Dad's friend insisted on shooting the skunk with a shotgun and what with the skunk reciprocating, not to mention hitting the scarce crockery, they had to leave the place.

Along about 1913-14 my father was secretary of the Farmers' Institute and he was custodian of the stumping powder as the Institutes do now. Stumping powder was just coming into general use then and he recalled that the noise of blasting out in the Valley was considerable some days. In August, 1914, when war was declared Dad had two carloads of stumping powder and part of a car of dynamite on hand. He said he couldn't sleep at night for fear someone would set it off.

Automobile A Novelty

I remember the July 1 celebration in 1914. It was on the CPR grounds by Front street. One of the outstanding attractions for the children was a free automobile ride out in the Valley. A car was somewhat of a novelty then.

We first went to school where the present City Hall stands. About 1917 the school caught fire and burned to the ground. When the fire broke out someone in charge took the pupils over to the CPR station. We were pretty annoyed at not being permitted to attend the burning. Then later when we were moved into the United church a fire started in the basement.

Not much damage except our school books were soaked. Quite a year for fire.

May Day celebrations were held on the old City Hall grounds, next to where the Anglican Church is now. The old city hall was the first school. It served as school, city hall and jail. The jail was in the school room section and the city hall was in the lean-to at the rear. If there was someone in the jail, usually on Mondays, then we got the day off.

School classes were held in various places at that time, in the Orange Hall (beside Rivers dairy); Presbyterian church (across from present City Hall); United church, Baptist church (same location); Finnish hall (Legion hall); and the building where C. D. Munro's office is now.

First Water Line

I recall the water pipe line to town going through Dad's place about 1913 or 14. It was dug by hand. I remember the wagon loads of pipe going up the hill for the Broadview water line. Ed. and Ivor Peterson took a contract to dig that line by hand. It's hard to realize these things now in this machine age. Speaking of machinery, I remember when the municipality bought a gas-engined road roller, about 8 or 10 tons I think. The day it was being unloaded from the railway flat car we kids went down to watch at recess time. When we got back Jack Chambers, our principal, caught us getting in late and gave us "what for." I believe the roller was broken up for scrap just before the second war.

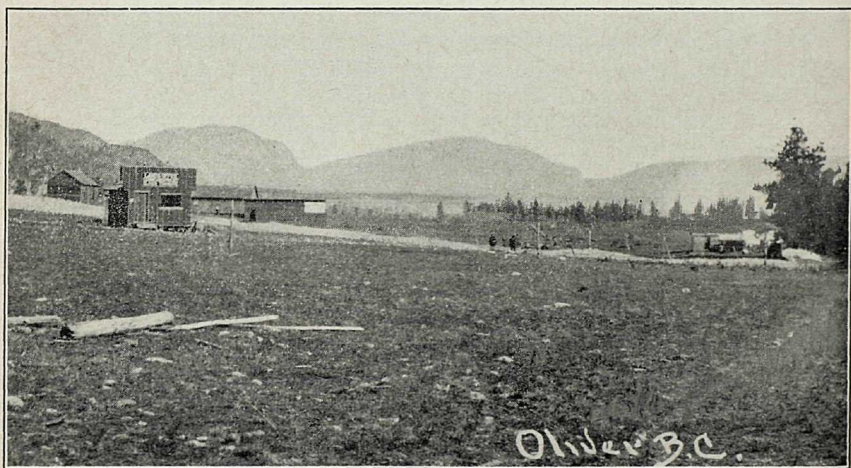
After the second war events moved quickly and this area, in keeping with most communities in B.C., expanded, and continues to face the problems that go with it. As I turn my thoughts to the future it is with the great hope that Providence will spare mankind so that we can realize the tremendous possibilities of development in this beautiful setting of lakes and mountains.

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I desire no future that will break the ties of the past.—
George Eliot.

The Village Of Oliver's Tenth Birthday

In "Okanagan Place Names" (OHS.12,p.215) A. G. Harvey noted that "Oliver is 25 miles south of Penticton. Rugged 'Honest John' Oliver (1856-1927) was premier of B.C. (1918-1927) when the province carried out the irrigation and land settlement here. "South Okanagan Lands Project," 1919-1921. Post Office opened May 1, 1921, Duncan Simpson postmaster. "The Corporation of the Village of Oliver" was incorporated December 31, 1945."



Oliver, B.C., April, 1921.
Land Sales Office shown in upper left of picture.
Photo courtesy of Vancouver Museum.

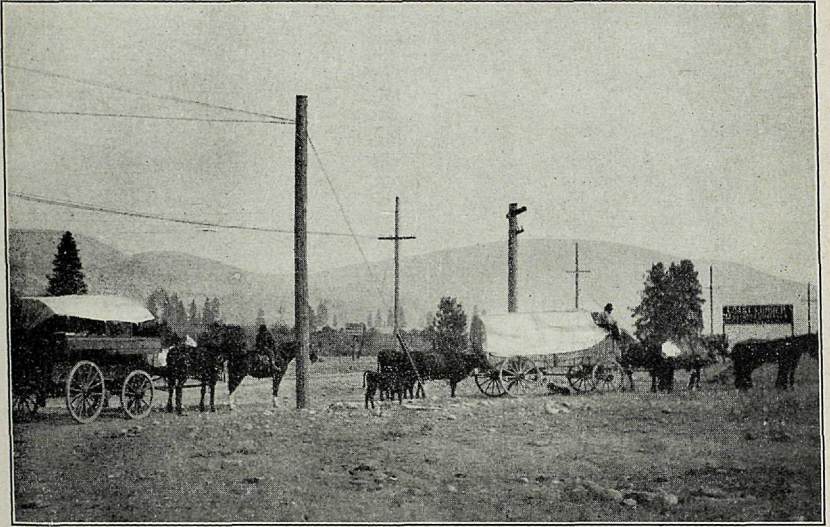
We have permission to reprint the following paragraphs from an article on 'Oliver, B.C.' which appeared in *Museum and Art Notes* (vol.V,No.2,pp.40 ff.,June, 1930), issued by the Art, Historical and Scientific Association of Vancouver, B.C., T. H. Ainsworth, who is secretary of the Association and curator of the Vancouver City museum, has also made available the accompanying cuts.

The first sale of orchard land was made on 4 March, 1921, to D. P. Simpson. This land was two miles north of the town-

The Village Of Oliver's Tenth Birthday

site, which was formally opened in the spring of 1920.

Oliver was named after the late John Oliver, when he was premier of this province. Those in charge of the irrigation project were responsible for suggesting the name. As far as can



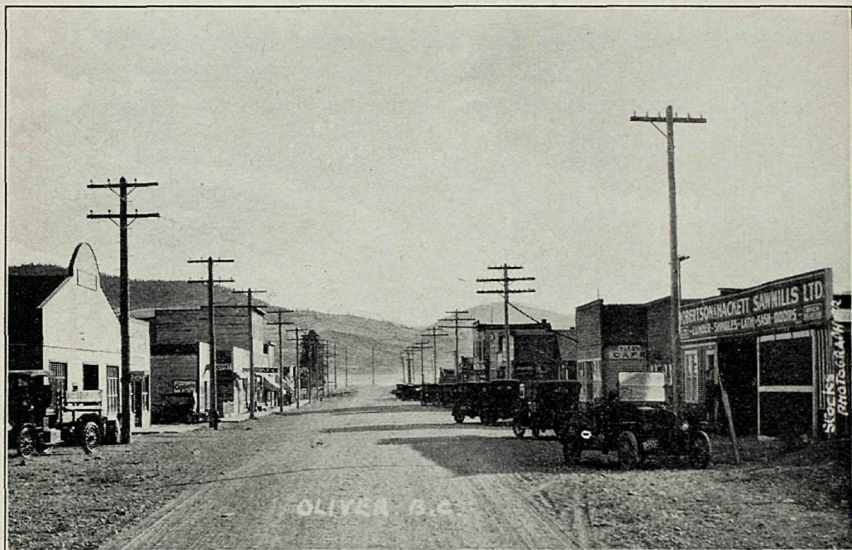
Pioneer days in Oliver

Photo courtesy Vancouver Museum

be learned, 'Honest John' was not consulted in the matter, and he was not anxious that his name be perpetuated in this way. Yet the choice was a happy one, and has commended itself to the public. But the name was not without a rival. One suggestion was Inkaneep, the name of the nearby Indian reserve. It was claimed that this name had a greater commercial value, and that it would have a more distinctive 'ring' when applied to cantaloupes. But Oliver it was to be, and Oliver it is.

In 1930 the population of Oliver was between six- and seven hundred. The 1953 Gazetteer gives the village population as 1000. The district population, of course, is much larger. The Oliver project dam is immediately behind the old McIntyre home. The inscription is "1920". Honourable T. D. Pattullo, Minister of Lands. E. A. Cleveland, Consulting Engineer." The ditch runs from here south.

The Village Of Oliver's Tenth Birthday



Oliver, B.C., in 1930

Photo courtesy Vancouver Museum

When the project began, Government officials in charge lived east of the river. There, too, was the first store. The first building on the townsite was the office of Mr. Moggridge, land sales agent. This was on the site of the present lands office. West of the main street now are churches, school, hospital, residential section.

The first store on the townsite was owned by J. K. Anderson. In the early years of Oliver's history Dr. G. H. Kearney looked after the medical needs of the community. He was an eccentric genius, who loved fishing and hunting and photography.

The pioneer minister was Rev. Harry Feir of the Presbyterian, afterwards United Church, who has left this record:

"The first service in Oliver townsite was held in a new building being erected for a store by C. D. Collen, on the second Sunday of July, 1921. The lumber and shavings were lying about the floor, and, across the street, a big five-ton truck was engaged in hauling another store building into its site. This

one was the property of A. J. McPherson. The second service was held in the same place. For several weeks after that an old building that had been used as a government office was the place of worship. Half that building afterwards became the doctor's office.

"In the meantime lots for a church and manse had been selected; and the minister, with the assistance of Gordon Hall, Bert Byers, Ashton and Wright (boys from the camp) put up a garage-church. This served for both church and school for three months. The first teacher (Mr. Price) was an Oxford graduate. A second schoolroom was provided alongside the other building by hauling a tar-papered shack onto the ground. In this, Miss McRory held sway over a growing number of children.

"On January 1, 1922, a new school building was opened, and church services were held in this. The church manse, built during the winter, was occupied by the minister and his family in April, 1922, their residence from July 1st of the previous year having been at Okanagan Falls. The first sod of ground for the new church was turned on October 2, 1922. The opening took place on December 3, Rev. Dr. George A. Wilson and Rev. J. Fergusson Millar officiating. The organ was donated by Charles G. Peter of St. John's congregation, Vancouver. This was a great, forward step in the life of the young and growing community. Mr. Feir continued as minister till 1931, and was followed by Revs. James Dewar, R. E. Cribb in 1936, S. V. H. Redman in 1942, and S. Pike in 1950. (Rev. Stanley V. H. Redman died in Vancouver on Monday, 29 August, 1955).

Other churches in Oliver and district have also made notable progress. Present-day churches, schools and hospital are among the finest of any community of comparable size.

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Rawlings, Wyo.—(AP)—Numbers of rare trumpeter swans, nearing extinction, have been depleted by one. One of the huge birds hit a refining company power line near Sinclair, Wyo., and was killed. The swans have an average wing span of eight feet.

Richter Mountain Settlement

Katie Lacey

Between the Similkameen and Okanagan valleys, and north of Richter Pass, is a high mountain extending east and west at the southern end, with a high tree-clad ridge running north towards Fairview and surmounted by a cone shaped peak. On the map it is shown as Mt. Kobau, elevation 6,175 ft. Kobau is a word of German origin, but with no apparent reason for its application. There is no evidence to show who named it. It is so named on Dawson's map of 1877.



Indian pictographs near Vaseux Lake
Photo courtesy Vancouver Museum

However, to the early settlers of the district the southern end, extending east and west is known as "Richter Mountain", the northern end as "Old Timer's Mountain;" and the high cone in the middle as the "Big Knoll." The Indians called it "Nice Top."

Jacob Swartz took up the first homestead in this district sometime around the 1880's, owning the original homestead that later became known as the Richter Lower Ranch. The late Frank Richter built a sizable cattle ranch out of it and he and his sons ran several hundred head of cattle there and on the surrounding ranges.

In 1914 land on Richter Mountain was thrown open for pre-emptions and before long there was a small settlement there, although the roads were almost inaccessible. The soil was not too good and the dry years had started to come back, and it was only a few years before it was all back to range as it should have been.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gray and small daughter Barbara were the first settlers there. At the time of their marriage a few years previously, Harry Gray had been tending bar for Dick Sidley at the Mountain View Hotel at Sidley and Mrs. Gray and her sister, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. C. Knight, early settlers of the Molson district, also worked there. After homesteading on Anarchist Mountain they took up the first homestead on Richter Mountain in the fall of 1914.

Mrs. Gray tells of living in a tent for four months; herself and Barbara being alone for as long as two weeks at a time; large herds of cattle around them at all times, her only protection a .22 rifle: and for months on end never seeing a white woman, only an occasional rider or passing Indians.

The next spring several families moved in: Mr. and Mrs. Harry Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hobbs and seven children and Edward Hobbs' brother Hank, all from the State of Washington. The Hobbs hauled in machinery and set up a small sawmill. There was a local demand for their lumber for a short time.

Jasper Sharp, his daughter, Mrs. Tyson, with four children, and another daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Al. Smith

and three children; all from Texas somehow found their way there and took up land. There were now about 12 children of school age and application was made for a school. A one room building was erected by volunteer labor and furnished with home made seats and desks. A Miss Morrow was the first teacher. She boarded with Mrs. Gray. The second year a young fellow named Richards from Vancouver taught, but when one of the parents thought he was paying too much attention to one of his pupils he was sent packing and the school closed down. Later, some of the seats and desks from this school were used in the first school in Osoyoos until more desks were available.



Mrs. Jessie Parrish

from Richter Mountain came here to have her baby. Dr. Effner of Oroville was the attending physician and Mrs. Gernyn, wife of the Osoyoos Customs Officer was the nurse for both cases. The courthouse latter became the first Osoyoos school.

Early in 1915 Harry Gray took sick. Zeb Parrish, who was foreman at the Lower Ranch at the time, and another man, went up and brought him down to the ranch in a spring wagon, but he was too sick to go farther and died shortly after. The same year Parrish and Mrs. Gray were married and in 1916 Mrs. Parrish gave birth to a son. One room of the old log courthouse at Osoyoos was fixed for a temporary maternity ward and the baby was born there. A few weeks later, Mrs. Harry Walker, also

In 1917 the Parrishes moved away and in 1921 Zeb Parrish was killed in a logging accident near Kettle Falls. Shortly after this, Mrs. Parrish moved to Everett, Washington, and has resided there ever since.

Other settlers on the Mountain were Andy Hamilton who, after proving up his pre-emption, sold out and went to Olds, Alberta, where he "cowboyed" for Pat Burns for many years. Jasper Sharp sold his place to Dave Orr who now resides near Oliver. Another was Harry Hanson an expert with a broad axe. He later married and brought his new wife up there where they lived till about 1924. Harry Stevens had homesteaded on Swartz Creek. By 1920 most of the families had left.

In 1916, Frank Thomas, an Englishman, who had spent much time at sea on sailing vessels, took up a homestead and is still living there in a comfortable cabin; the only one of all the settlers there to stay on, although he has not raised crops for several years.



Frank Thomas, Richter Mountain

A few years ago as Osoyoos was settled, a group of young people formed a club known as the Skyline Ski Club. The open slopes on Richter Mountain and around the Big Knoll were ideal Ski Country and for the most part of winter the snow is ideal for this fascinating sport. To Frank Thomas spending his long winters alone on his homestead this was indeed an adventure. Holidays and week-ends when the snow is suitable, some of the group hike to Frank's. A warm fire and hot coffee are always available and he makes every effort for their comfort in return for the enjoyable company the group gives him whenever they come his way. It has become a ritual with him that whenever he knows that any of the skiers are coming up

he sends aloft the Union Jack on a stout flag pole that stands beside his cabin, and it is indeed a welcome sight, a gesture of good friendship, always looked for by the members of the club as they round the turn of the hill and Frank's cabin comes into view.

At the foot of the eastern end of Richter Mountain is a lake known as Spotted Lake. It is about thirty acres in area. The peculiar formation of white rings, caused by large deposits of epsom salts, gives the lake its name. It gave considerable trouble to the early cattlemen as the water was poisonous to cattle and horses, and many were lost before the lake was fenced.

In the early days this lake was used extensively by the Indians, who would spend much time soaking themselves in the chemically-rich mud and warming in the blazing sun, the high percentage of epsom salts giving relief to arthritic and rheumatic sufferers.

During the first world war American interests mined the lake for the salts which were used in the manufacture of explosives. A large gang of Chinamen skimmed off the salts into barrows, which were wheeled ashore on planks. Then it was loaded into trucks and taken to Oroville, Washington, and from there shipped east.

At the present time Osoyoos sawmills are doing extensive logging on this mountain. There is also near the lake at the top a small sawmill owned by V. Swensen. The Forestry Department has a lookout station on top of Big Knoll. There is a good jeep road to the top, a sharp contrast to the scarcely passable roads with which the first settlers had to contend.

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The remains of great and good men, like Elijah's mantle, ought to be gathered up and preserved by their survivors; that as their works follow them in the reward of them, they may stay behind in their benefit.—Matthew Henry.

Early Penticton

Reg. Atkinson

The following article has reference to Penticton prior to its incorporation as a district municipality.¹

The first residents of the district were probably members of the Okanagan tribe of the Pacific Northwest Interior Salish Indians. Their main village, which they called Pen-tek-tan, was located on the east bank of the Okanagan River, and extended from the present site of Penticton Sawmills to the Fairview Road bridge. This property is now occupied by two sawmills, the C.P.R. yards, the West Kootenay Power & Light Company and several fuel yards.

Archaeological research has established that this site accommodated the largest concentration of population in the Okanagan Valley, exceeded only by some of the villages on the Thompson River, Shuswap Lake and the Wenatchee area to the south. The choice was logical being midway in the valley's chain of lakes which provided easy transportation by dugout canoes and rafts in summer and over the ice in winter. The river at this point consisted of a half-mile stretch of gravel shoals providing easy fording. The campsite was well-sheltered, fuel was abundant, and game and wildlife abounded. Materials for the manufacture of weapons, baskets, ropes and garments were close to hand. Its geographic position made it a central rendezvous for the Indian, much as it is for our people today.

The most-accepted translation of the word Pen-tek-tan²

1. The first townsite plan was filed November 15, 1892; a more extensive plan July 31, 1905. "The Corporation of the District of Penticton" was incorporated January 1, 1909; first reeve Alfred H. Wade; it became a city May 10, 1948, first mayor Robert Lyon (OHS.12(1948)P.216).

2. There seems to be little agreement about the meaning of Indian place names. A. G. Harvey (OHS.12(1948) P.217) states that the name Penticton is "from the Indian name Pente-hik-ton, 'ever' or 'forever' referring to the constant steady flow of the Okanagan River out of the lake." The dictionary of Okanagan Indian words prepared by Mrs. Louis Gabrielle for Mrs. R. B. White gives "Te pentik" as meaning always, or eternal. Mr. Atkinson assumes that this may refer to the Indian encampment as well as to the constant flow of water from the lake. The basic idea seems to be that of continuity — Editor.

means "a permanent abode," and to this may be added "where waters pass by." Information is meagre regarding the arrival of the first white man in the district but it is established that Alexander Ross, then in the employ of the John Jacob Astor fur company, passed through the valley in 1810-11, accompanied by a Roman Catholic priest. Ross later served for many years with the Hudson's Bay Company. It is not known whether any members of the Lewis-Clark expedition, who reached the Pacific coast in November, 1805, ever reached a point this far north.

Father Pandosy commenced missionary work here in 1861, and in 1866 Thomas Ellis, an Irishman, arrived in the district and established a homesite on what is now the Kyle subdivision on Windsor Avenue, less than half a mile from the Indian village.

Apparently the new settler won the confidence of the Indians as they lived side by side for eleven years until the reservation was established by the Dominion Government on November 24, 1877, leaving all the land on the east side of Okanagan River in Mr. Ellis's possession with the exception of a hundred yard strip which was reserved for Indian fishing privileges. The first survey commenced in 1889, and became known as Penticton Indian Reserve No. 1. Reserve No. 2 did not come into existence until the South Okanagan Land Company developed its subdivision, and resulted from a Norde which included the hundred yards of river frontage previously held as a fishing ground by the local band.

From this small beginning Mr. Ellis' ranch steadily expanded till his holding extended from north of Nine Mile Point (Naramata) to the International Boundary, a distance of nearly 56 miles.

He established his home close to the lush meadows on a small off-shoot from Penticton Creek which then flowed due west and emptied into the Okanagan River near the present site of the C.P.R. bridge. The homestead site is now the present site of the Kyle subdivision, Windsor Avenue. The cattle driven in from Oregon rapidly increased and grazed on the virgin benchgrass, and so developed a fine quality of beef. Marketing must have been a problem at the beginning, but fortune smiled on Mr. Ellis for as his herd increased so did the markets.

The building of the C.P.R. and a succession of mining booms at Rock Creek, Rossland, Camp McKinney and Fairview all provided outlets.

During this period Ellis realized the necessity of increased hay tonnage, and set to work building an irrigation system by diverting water from Penticton and Ellis creeks into a series of open canals which fanned out and watered the upper and drier portions of the flats. At that time Ellis Creek hugged the base of the Munson flat escarpment and emptied into the north-east corner of Skaha Lake.³ The present course was then an overflow during spring freshet which would have been weakened by the Ellis diversions. In order to further conserve winter feed a rail drift fence was built across the main bench from Penticton Creek to Naramata which closely followed the course of the present upper bench to Naramata.

As the herds increased and the property developed, this industrious Irishman thought also of his family's comfort, and the homestead gradually increased in size and beauty till when taken over by the Southern Okanagan Land Company in 1905 it covered many acres. The south wall of the large, two-storey, grey home was almost covered with grape vines. Fine lawns were surrounded by neat, picket fences, and many fine evergreens, only one of which survives. In front, a row of black-thorns gave shelter to horses when tied to the hitching rail which ran parallel to the thorn trees. The orchard between the home and what is now Scott Road contained many varieties

3. Mr. Atkinson would prefer to use the former name Dog Lake, which he believes was preferred by the Society to Skaha Lake, which was adopted by the Canadian Board on Geographic Names, and appears in the **Gazetteer of Canada; British Columbia**, p.521 (Ottawa, 1953) as name of station, creek and lake. It is claimed by those who opposed the change that the former name was already well-established, and that Skaha is not a local Indian word. The change was made in 1930.

On Anderson's map, 1867, the name appears as L.du Chien; and as Du Chien L. on Trutch maps, 1866 and 1871 (OHS.12,p.220). In **A Nature Lover in British Columbia** (London, 1937), p.40, H. J. Parham maintained the lake should have had the euphonious name "Chokowapee," the local Indian name for dog. He believes that Skaha is the Shuswap word for dog. We have not been able to find this word in Father LeJeune's **Studies in Shuswap** (Kamloops, 1925). Mrs. L. Gabrielle gives the Okanagan Indian word as kik-wap, which is clearly the word given by Mr. Parham. The Chinook is kahmooks, from which the place-name Comox is derived. —Editor.

then popular — Red Astrachan apples, Russets, Greenings, Ben Davis, Napoleon and Ribston pippins. The first trees were set out in 1872. Approaching the ranch from Fairview Road a maze of wintering sheds and corrals met the eye. Nearer the ranch house stood two roothouses. A meat house and dairy spanned the creek, and a square log store at which Indians and whites traded.

All this could not be cared for single-handed. For many years Mr. Ellis depended on Indian help, but as the district was settled white men gradually took over much of the responsible duties. Contact with the coast was maintained by horse travel and packtrain by way of Allison Pass and Dewdney Trail; with the north, by way of Okanagan Mission and Priest's Valley (Vernon).

In August, 1890, the C.P.R. commenced construction of a spur line from Sicamous to Okanagan Landing, and on its completion in 1892 purchased the boat then operated on Okanagan Lake by Lequime and inaugurated a boat service between Okanagan Landing and Penticton. This brought new prosperity and more settlers, some of whom pre-empted remaining, unsettled properties wherever there were a few acres of tillable soil and a trace of water for irrigation. Among the early pre-empters were a Mr. Randolph on the Upper Bench, James Campbell, John Strutt, M. C. Kendall, John Kearns and Colin Rankin.

The discovery of the Lake Shore Mine half a mile north east of the town about 1890 excited many local prospectors who staked claims on Campbell Mountain, which soon became covered with glory holes all of which proved worthless. The last man to operate was Jack Rice, who continued to work a claim on Penticton Creek until 1914.

Boat service made a wharf necessary, and this was built by the Dominion Government at the present site of the C.N.R. dock. Later, a private dock was built by Henry Murk, formerly of Vernon. This dock was located east of the present C.P.R. dock and near the Penticton Co-operative Growers' packing plant on lakeshore.

The road from the Government wharf crossed Ellis Street

to where the medical clinic now stands and thence in a general direction to the Ellis homestead. The first road out of town continued from the homestead and forded the river at the Indian village now at the west end of Huth Avenue. The road to Keremeos climbed the sand hill behind the Indian Roman Catholic church and followed the benches on the south side of Shingle Creek. The Summerland road climbed the sand hill to the north of the present Indian village, and followed a northerly course across the west bench to Trout Creek. Mr. Ellis also maintained a road to Skaha Lake. This road crossed Ellis Creek a little east of Fairford Drive bridge and continued in a southerly direction midway between the present highway and the Okanagan River.

Soon after regular boat service was established, an engineer named Holbrook was engaged by a Trust company to survey what is now known as the Old Townsite. The area set aside did not seriously affect the Ellis holdings as it took in only that portion of the present city which is bounded on the west by Ellis Street to Wade Avenue, thence east to the present C.P.R. grade, and included the undulating lower bench overlooking the lake. The Penticton Townsite Company Ltd. was incorporated on September 7, 1892, with headquarters in Vancouver, and capital stock \$100,000. Penticton's first hotel was built on the rise overlooking the dock. Joe Thurber was its first proprietor. A livery barn was built on the opposite corner immediately south of what is now Van Horne and Vancouver Avenue. Henry Wright was its first operator. The first court house stood opposite this barn. On the completion of the hotel, A. H. Wade, who had arrived from Ireland to join his brother-in-law Tom Ellis, opened a store in the hotel and also handled the mail.

The year 1892 also saw the erection of Penticton's first Protestant church. A gift from Mr. Ellis to the community, it stood on the site of the St. Saviour's cemetery on Fairview Street opposite the Ellis homestead. The Rev. Thomas Greene, afterwards Archdeacon Greene, was the first rector. A vicarage was built on the property now occupied by the medical clinic. This house became the first office of the South Okanagan Lund Company, and, later, the home of Dr. and Mrs. R. B. White. The Rev. Henry Irwin, familiarly known as "Father Pat",

a well-known Anglican minister in the Boundary Country, often took services at St. Saviour's. The original part of this church is now the chapel of St. Saviour's on Winnipeg Street.

During the 1890's the Boundary Country hummed with mining activity. New camps and towns sprang up. Vast sums of money from the United States, Eastern Canada and Great Britain poured into the district to float hundreds of companies registered at Victoria. Great demands were made on transportation for mining equipment and supplies of all kinds. Stage lines and horse-drawn freight wagons clogged the newly built roads and taxed facilities to the limit.

The public clamoured for the construction of a railroad. There were a number of companies operating railways in the Kootenays, and one of these, the Columbia & Western, proposed a line which would run from Greenwood to Camp McKinney, twenty miles east of Oliver, then down to Vaseux Lake and north through Okanagan Falls to Penticton, reaching there along the eastern shore of Skaha Lake. McKenzie & Mann were the contractors, and they excavated several small sections of grade within the city limits. A portion of the present grade on Main Street south was originally C & W grade. One short section remains on the north side of Okanagan Avenue. They also built a grade on what is now Front Street (formerly Smith Street) which would have connected with the Government wharf. After the railway company abandoned this project, and lost the franchise, the Front Street grade was adopted as a base line for the second townsite, thus creating the awkward angles we now have in that part of the city.

By 1900 British Columbia was attracting attention as an agricultural province, and the interior was being promoted as suitable for the production of tree fruits. At the north end of the valley, Lord Aberdeen's Coldstream ranch had already reached the productive stage, and James Gartrell of Trout Creek Point won several high awards at the Royal Horticultural Society show in London, England.

It was only a matter of time before attention would be focussed on the Ellis estate. Messrs. Pelly and Hill were the first to have an option on the estate, but they allowed the option to lapse. Among the young business men who had drifted

west to the bustling mining camps were the Shatford brothers, Walter T. and Lytton W. from Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia. They had been successful in general store business at Slocan City, Vernon, Camp McKinney and Fairview. They were given an option by Mr. Ellis, and the South Okanagan Land Company was formed in 1905 with a strong slate of directors and shareholders.

Work commenced soon after on plans for the subdivision of that portion of the estate which could be supplied by gravity irrigation water from Penticton and Ellis creeks. The services of J. H. Latimer, B.C.L.S., then living at Vernon, were obtained to take charge of surveying the townsite and bench lands. His first problem was to lay out the irrigation systems. After locating on both creeks adequate storage sites, the points of diversion were selected from which the main flumes and ditches branched out at the edge of the foothills, thus establishing the eastern boundaries of the development. It is noteworthy that the first storage dam on Penticton Creek is still in use, and the original diversion sites and high level system remain in their original locations.

The laying out of the irrigation system in the rural area had a definite effect on the ultimate plan of roads as all parts of the system were above ground and followed the grade contours. Under modern methods of planning irrigation systems and road building a much more practical plan of division could be designed. When the Penticton Creek diversion, designed to take care of the main bench, reached Four Mile Creek (Turnbull) the grade had dropped sufficiently to render it impractical to continue farther north and thus this became the northerly boundary. Naramata area was sold to the company's vice-president, J. M. Robinson, who developed it separately.

Owing to the precipitous nature of the canyon wall in Ellis Creek the construction of the diversion dam at a higher level was prohibitive, thus preventing the inclusion of some valuable acreage at either end of the Ellis Creek system. A second system of flumes, fed by Ellis Creek, and known as the north lateral, was installed to supply the properties located on the fringe of the business section of the townsite. Irrigation was supplied to all portions as far west as Moose Jaw Street

and north to the lake on the west side of town. Original water tolls were \$2.50 per acre on the flats, and \$3 per acre on the benches. The estimated cost of all installations was \$150,000.

The company was naturally intent on revenue from its investment in addition to the sale of land and sought complete coverage of all agricultural property. As a result, many acres of subirrigated land on the flats, and other properties possessing natural supplies, were furnished with outlets. This led to many complications.

During the building of the irrigation system company officials were busy with an extensive advertising campaign, and published an illustrated brochure entitled "The Land of Sunshine, Fruit and Flowers". This pamphlet contained recommendations from many leading agriculturists including one from R. M. Palmer, Provincial Fruit Commissioner and father of the late R. C. Palmer, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station at Summerland.

Many of the early purchasers did not take up residence here but preferred to enter into an agreement with the company to plant the property and have it cared for by contract. B. A. Shatford was in charge of this work.

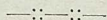
The winter of 1908-1909 was very severe. The planting on the flats suffered heavily, particularly on Penticton Avenue, Calgary and west of Fairview Road. Many of these young orchards were abandoned and later became subdivisions.

The population at the turn of the century was approximately 50. By 1907 it was 500.

From 1910 to 1912 many of the early-bearing varieties of tree fruits came into production, and quicker transportation became imperative. Plans were commenced for the location of the Kettle Valley railway with Penticton as a divisional point. After months of location work, during which every effort was made to obtain a suitable grade in the vicinity of the Carmi Road, the present site was agreed on, with the result that the right-of-way cut through streets and private property on the flats, split orchard lands in two, disrupted irrigation systems and disfigured the townsite.

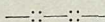
The first packing sheds and fruit processing plants were built close to the original dock. This was suitable to the packing house operator and to the grower who delivered his crop on horse-drawn vehicles. As most of the crop was hauled down Vancouver Avenue, the distance was shorter. As tonnage increased, the investment in packing houses and equipment increased till today we find a large portion of what should be public foreshore occupied by industrial enterprises.

The lack of early town planning has left a marked blemish on a city with unrivalled natural features, and as the years advance the cost of rectifying these mistakes will become greater.



History is valuable to future generations and is perishable unless placed on record when it is comparatively fresh. . . . Our country is fast outgrowing the pioneering stage. Every week, old-timers go to their last reward, in many cases taking with them precious information relative to the early days.—Mrs. Kate Johnson in *Pioneer Days of Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes* (Nakusp, 1951).

In his introduction to Mrs. Johnson's book, Herbert W. Heridge has this paragraph: "The record of a country's history is not only the record of great and grand events. While the acts of kings and governments provide the great brush strokes on the canvas of human experience, it is the details of the lives of ordinary people and day to day events that complete the picture and give it meaning. Too often it is these details, so fundamental to the life of a nation, which go unwritten and become lost in the mists of time."



The true past departs not; no truth or goodness realized by man ever dies, or can die; but all is still here, and, recognized or not, lives and works through endless changes.—Carlyle.

Penticton's First Youth Movement

Reg Atkinson

The first effort to organize the teen-age boys of Penticton and district had its beginning in 1907, and became known as the Penticton Boys' Club under the charge of Mrs. Hector McNeil whose husband operated a small dairy. To augment their income Mrs. McNeil tutored a small class of pupils prior to the opening of a high school class here. Not being blessed with a family of her own, Mrs. McNeil took a keen interest in the children of the community, particularly teen-age boys.

The club house the first couple of years was a large, one-room shack on Ellis Street, on property now occupied by the Clark Lumber Co. yard. Later, larger premises were obtained in the Barnes hall farther north on the same street.

Meetings were held on Friday evenings, and opened with a prayer, reciting of a pledge, and then followed games, competitions, mock trials and other entertainment. The popularity of the club could be judged by its membership, which was practically 100 percent of all the eligible boys in the town. In summer everyone was expected to go to camp, and an annual dinner was held each winter.

While the club's enthusiasm was still keen Lord Baden Powell organized the Boy Scouts in England, and soon after, the movement spread to Canada. A proposal that the club apply for affiliation was put to the membership, and after much discussion, and not a little reluctance, it was decided an application be made on behalf of Penticton. Soon after authorization came through Penticton had the inception of its first troop, Boy Scouts.

Mrs. McNeil continued to take an active part, assisting Harry Pitman who became the first scout master. On the outbreak of the first Great War practically every senior scout, and those who had outgrown the scouts, enlisted for service, including Mr. McNeil who was much younger than his wife.

Mrs. McNeil followed her husband overseas and took up

residence in Putney, England. Through untiring efforts she succeeded in making contact with practically every former member of the boys' club and scouts. She kept open house for all of them, met trains, arranged for boys to meet one another when home on leave, and kept a remarkable record of their exploits.

Her husband went to France with the Canadian artillery, and was severely wounded. After his discharge from hospital they returned to Canada, but both died soon after. Mrs. McNeil was dearly beloved by all her boys.

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Believe it or not—"Yes, he was a wonderfully well-trained dog; he knew as much as a Christian, and would do any mortal thing I told him. I remember one night someone left the door open, and I said, 'Shot, shut the door.' So he went and banged it to; but the latch wouldn't catch and it flew open again. I told him again to shut it and the same thing happened, so I said very angrily, 'Now, shut that door!' And he bounced up from the rug where he had laid himself down and just stood up against the door to keep it closed, turned the key with his teeth, and then threw it down close to me, with a look that said as plainly as words, 'There, d—— you, I hope that'll satisfy you.' By heavens, it's just the solid truth and divil a word of a lie I'm telling you."—B.C. 1887—*A Ramble in British Columbia* by J. A. Lees and W. J. Clutterbuck (Longmans, Green & Co., London, 1892) pp.207-8.

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"When a man who has done something exceedingly crazy is under discussion you will hear the phrase: 'Il a vu le Chevre d'Or! He has seen the Golden Goat!'

"And there are hundreds who have seen him . . . and never since have they been the same again. The habitual things of life are nothing to them any more. They run tremendous risks, or they sit quietly and let life go by like a purling river."—*The Golden Goat*, by Donn Byrne, quoted by R. M. Patterson in *The Dangerous River*, p.79 (George Allen & Unwin Ltd., London, 1954).

Peachland, Summerland and Naramata

F. W. Andrew

John Moore Robinson, who played an important part in the development of Okanagan, was born in Wellington County, Ontario, on December 30, 1855, and was of Irish descent. As a young man, after studying at Lockport, New York, and St. Catherines, he moved to the prairies, and taught school for seven years. Then he turned to newspaper work. In 1883 he acquired the *Tribune* of Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. To this he added the *Portage Review* in 1884. In June, 1886, he founded the *Brandon Times*. He became Grand Master of the Orange Lodge in Manitoba in 1886-7-8 and was elected to represent Woodlands in the Manitoba legislature.



J. M. Robinson

During his stay in Brandon he made a trip to Okanagan in 1888. His attention was turned to British Columbia where he heard the call of gold. In the early 1890's there were several mining camps in British Columbia including that of Rossland. He examined these carefully but his attention was drawn more to the west. The diamond drill was not extensively used for prospecting in those days, mining engineers often made mistakes when directing operations, so if "gold is where you find it", the advice of those in the spirit world would seem to be as dependable as any other. Not overlooking this possibility, a company was formed for the purpose of prospecting for gold in the select region which extended north-east of Princeton to Camp Hewitt, near the present site of Peachland. The officers of this company were: president, J. M. Robinson; directors: W. J. Robinson and A. T. Robinson, R. C. Lipsett, D. H. Watson and a Mr. Anderson, a clairvoyant. The president, "J. M." as he was usually called, went to the prairie to sell stock in this new company, and as a result several families moved to the new district at Camp Hewitt, close to the edge of the Okanagan.

On Trepanier Creek, adjacent to the site of the prospecting, was the ranch of the Lambly brothers. This was primarily given to the raising of cattle and horses but it had a few acres

planted with peaches. Isolated plantings of peaches, either as seedlings or brought as nursery stock, had been recorded by James Gartrell of Trout Creek and probably at Okanagan Falls. One day J. M. had a meal at this ranch and ate some of the peaches, then at their peak of maturity.

He then had an inspiration that changed the lives of some thousands of people. As the Niagara Peninsula was the only district in Canada where peaches had been grown successfully on a commercial scale, other parts had to import them either from California or take them over the long haul from Ontario. And if peaches could grow at this latitude, he reasoned, other fruits such as apples, pears, cherries, plums and grapes could also be grown profitably. The prospect of establishing an extensive fruit business was attractive and compelling.

While J. M.'s trip to the prairie prompted many enquiries about mining there were, nevertheless, a number of inquiries about peaches. On March 4, 1898, Dan Seaton and Thompson Elliott came to look the district over and build homes for their families and those who were to follow shortly, for on May 6, 1898, the first carload of settlers and their effects arrived. Seaton and Elliott were joined by Alex Miller, Leon McCall and others. On that first carload brought by the *S.S. Aberdeen* were J. M. Robinson, his wife and children, Mrs. M. E. McDougald, J. M.'s sister and five children, Mr. and Mrs. Huston and two children, followed by R. C. Lipsett and his wife.

A post office, named "Peachland" at the request of Mr. Robinson, was opened in December, 1898, with D. H. Watson in charge. He was succeeded in 1901 by Mrs. M. E. McDougald, then by her son, Archie, then by her daughter Candace; then by H. Birkelund in January 1953. For a number of years this office handled the business of the government telegraph and long distance line serving the valley as well as the local telephone calls. A sidelight shows how the value of the dollar has changed. A contract dated March 1, 1901, provided for the conveyance of the mail, 6 days per week from the C.P.R. wharf to the Peachland office, 200 yards, at \$50 per annum.

After seeing and eating the peaches that grew on the Lambly ranch and realizing the wealth to be gathered from other fruits grown under similar conditions, J. M. bought the

Hewitt pre-emption and also that of Harry Hardy. These he subdivided into fruit lots of 10 acres in size and offered them for sale at \$100.00 per acre through the Peachland Townsite Co. Ltd. In the name of this company he obtained water rights for the land on Deep Creek, using ditches at first to distribute the water. Later, when a dam was constructed, the Peachland Townsite Co. agreed to supply irrigation water at a yearly rate of \$10 to \$25 for a 10 acre orchard — another glimpse of the changing dollar.

The Peachland Townsite Co. Ltd. was incorporated in 1898 by the following: J. M. Robinson, Peachland, promoter of companies; J. B. Somerset, Winnipeg, of the *Winnipeg Free Press*; C. J. Jamieson, Winnipeg, doctor; W. J. Robinson, Vernon, broker; D. H. Watson, Peachland, express agent and clerk. J. M. Robinson was elected president.

In 1899 John Gummow (father of the late Reeve Ben Gummow) who had bought a ten acre fruit lot from the Peachland Townsite Co. through J. M., came to the young settlement and planted the first orchard in Peachland, that is the first after the fruit trees originally planted on the Lambly ranch at the mouth of Trepanier Creek. Dan Seaton and Thompson Elliott also bought fruit lots and soon Peachland was off to a good start.

Hugh McDougall, father of R. J. McDougall, for many years publisher of *The Penticton Herald* and one-time reeve of Penticton, came from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan in 1902 and established a sawmill and store on the lakeshore between the village and Deep Creek. W. A. Lang operated a store in the village and later, with associates, established a mill up Trepanier Creek. Eventually these enterprises were amalgamated under the name of the Peachland Trading Co., stock in which was held by Messrs. McDougall, Lang, Robinson and others.

Some of the other early residents who made substantial contribution to the progress of the little community fifty or more years ago were: Rev. C. W. Whyte, R. J. Hogg, the Pope Brothers, the Miller Brothers, Alex Miller (no relation) Aikins Brothers, Leon McCall, A. D. Ferguson, M. N. Morrison, P. N. Dorland, J. L. Silver, Hugh Williams, Wm. Coldham, Grant Lang, Hamilton Lang, J. L. Vicary, Elliott Brothers, Jim and

Charlie, George Keyes, J. Michaels, Messrs. Clarence and Hardy. The last named was one of the real old timers of B.C. who lived at Peachland to a good old age.

By 1908 the one room school was unable to accommodate the pupils, so a four-room school was erected, but this in a few years was unable to take care of the growing classes. In 1909, the Municipality of Peachland was incorporated with the following officers: Reeve W. A. Lang; Councillors, L. D. McCall, M. N. Morrison, C. G. Elliott and F. Callander.

The progress of the wide-awake municipality is recorded¹ by Frank Haskins in the *Penticton Herald*, March 7, 1946. The population was then over 500. The municipality owned its own electric light and power plant, but the irrigation district was separate from the municipality and had 600 acres under irrigation. In 1945, it shipped a half million boxes of fruit of which 52,000 were apples and 201,000 were peaches. It looked as though Peachland was a well chosen name.

The turn in the fortune of those prospecting for gold reminded one of the old fable in which a man left a piece of land to his sons with instructions to hunt for gold on it. They dug the land and turned it over thoroughly but found no gold. But the crops they afterwards planted yielded far more than ever before, and then the sons understood what the old man meant — that gold is not so much a matter of lucky prospecting as a result of hard work and thrift.

Mr. Robinson and his associates surveyed the progress of Peachland after it was firmly established and they had the satisfaction of feeling that they had accomplished something worthwhile. The money lost in prospecting for gold promised to be more than offset by the profits from selling orchard land and fruit growing.

The new settlers were optimistic. One factor was the anticipated demand for their fruit by the growing population of this Canadian North-west, and another was the prospect of even more settlers. Comparatively close at hand were people who had grown tired of the long, cold winters on the prairie. The

1. OHS. 12 (1948), p. 217; OHS. 15 (1951), p. 86.

Rev. Frank Haskins. *Penticton Herald*, March 7, 1946. *Penticton Herald*, June 10, 1937; Mrs. B. Gummow, Mrs. Gwen Robinson.

speculation in Peachland had been profitable. So, could it not be repeated? Modern methods of high pressure advertising and courtesy trips for demonstration had not been developed so M. Robinson had to feel his way carefully.

He noted that the northern part of the Okanagan Valley was largely occupied by those engaged in mixed farming, while the southern part, with the exception of a few pre-emptions, was principally a cattle country.

J. M. thought the undeveloped bench land of the Trout Creek district offered a promise of land that could be developed into another and larger fruit growing area. The soils and climate were similar to those of Peachland. He covered the district carefully on horseback and made enquiries from the scattered settlers. Once he noticed a wild peach tree growing near the present Summerland reservoir. It apparently had sprouted from a peach stone that George Gartrell had cast aside from his lunch. He had worked for George N. Barclay who had water rights on Trout Creek and was building a dam on the north side of the creek for storage purposes. J. M. was convinced that if peaches could grow some 700 feet above the lake level, peaches and other fruits would do well on the whole of the Trout Creek bench land.

To develop such a scheme required more capital than he had at hand. However, he obtained the interest of George A. Henderson, manager of the Vernon branch of the Bank of Montreal, who in turn presented the proposition to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, the President of the C.P.R. The latter viewed it favorably, thereby assuring J. M. of sufficient working and development capital.

In 1902, the Barclay holdings, including most of the Summerland benches were bought and the Summerland Development Co. Ltd. was incorporated with the following as directors: Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, George A. Henderson, J. M. Robinson, H. J. Cambie and T. Kilpatrick. Sir Thomas Shaughnessy was elected president and J. M. Robinson as managing director. With the purchase of marginal pre-emptions practically all of the present municipality of Summerland was included. The exceptions were a few pre-emptions in the narrow Garnett Valley, the Gartrell and Woods pre-emptions in Trout Creek point and

a small Indian Reserve at West Summerland, still often called Siwash Flat.

A townsite was laid out on the lakeshore but the abrupt, overhanging cliffs limited it in size. A post office was built there, the first postmaster being F. S. Moule. Surveyors were soon busy laying out roads and sub-dividing the land with fruit lots, usually 10 acres in size. An irrigation system, supplied by Trout Creek, was installed with an ample reservoir which insured a fairly even flow of water. The townsite of Summerland had a domestic system of spring water and also a number of fire hydrants. The Summerland Hotel was erected, a good frame building with about 20 rooms at first and it set a good table. It had a billiard room but no bar.

J. M.'s own home overlooking the townsite was named "Buena Vista" and at that time was considered to be of good material and well built. In 1904 the Summerland Supply Co. was incorporated for the sale of general merchandise with the following directors: J. M. Robinson, R. H. Agur, James Ritchie, T. J. Smith and H. C. Mellor. The upper floors of their store were finished as a good auditorium, "Empire Hall," and was used by travelling shows and for social purposes.

In February, 1903, a school district was formed that took in the whole municipality of Summerland and J. M. was elected one of the trustees. On December 1, 1906, the district municipality of Summerland was incorporated and in the elections held on January 1, 1907, the following were elected: Reeve J. M. Robinson, Councillors: James Ritchie, J. R. Brown, R. H. Agur and C. J. Thomson. J. L. Logie was appointed clerk of the new municipality.

In 1906, the main building of Okanagan College was erected under the sponsorship of Brandon College, a Baptist organization. The college was opened the next year with Dr. Everett W. Sawyer as principal. It was then possible to give a secondary education to local students. The old college is now under the control of the Mountain View Home and cares for a number of aged and disabled persons.

As the population of Summerland was steadily growing, it was necessary to maintain its communications with outside

points. In 1907, the Lakeshore Telephone Co. was formed. It was a one-wire magneto system (provocative of much bad temper). It covered the Municipality of Summerland and then branches were constructed in Penticton and Peachland, while a government owned line gave these towns connection with other points in the valley. By 1906, the S.S. *Aberdeen* was found incapable of handling the increased traffic in freight and passengers, with her three times a week service, so the C.P.R. built and launched the larger and faster S.S. *Okanagan*, which made the round trip, Penticton to Okanagan Landing (near Vernon) each week day. Business continued to increase and another sternwheeler, the still larger S.S. *Sicamous* was launched in 1914 with Captain G. L. Estabrooks in command. The roads were becoming modernized. Motor vehicles for both freight and passengers were giving satisfactory service. Consequently in recent years there was little left for the *Sicamous* to do. After the dismantling of the engines the vessel was finally sold for a nominal sum to the Gyros of Penticton, where it was moored on the beach and used as a place of entertainment.

During a provincial election, a certain young aspirant for the seat in the Okanagan constituency had more faith in oratory than in logic. He referred to the traffic on the lake "on whose placid bosom ply the keels of commerce". J. M. was content to give the credit to the freight barges of the C.P.R. and C.N.R. in such plain language that his party won the seat.

The Bank of Montreal which had to some extent sired the development of Summerland established a sub-branch on the east side of Shaughnessy Avenue with E. B. May in charge, and assisted by Holmes Walker and Charles Kerr. In a year or so this was made a regular branch. In August, 1908, the *Review Publishing Co.* was incorporated with J. F. Watkins as manager and Rev. A. T. Robinson as editor of the *Weekly Review*. This was well written and reflected the opinions of that period.

It had been realized for some time that none of the established Experimental Farms were able to give much help to irrigated crops and dry farming. Mr. Robinson, with H. C. Mellor representing the Summerland Board of Trade maintained the pressure on the local M.P., the Hon Martin Burrell, until in 1914 a portion of the Indian Reserve south of Trout Creek was

set aside for the purpose of establishing an Experimental Station. That this has been a success no one can question. Many agricultural problems, some of world importance, have been solved here. Later, laboratories for Plant Pathology and Entomology were erected on the same ground, and both have added lustre to the achievements of the Summerland Experimental Station.

In 1923 there was some extremely cold weather and many of the water pipes in Summerland were frozen. J. M.'s home was built on a small hillside overlooking Summerland. As he was then living in Naramata, the house was occupied by his brother, W. J. Robinson and family. Down at the lakeside a store operated by Simpson and Gowans caught fire. There was quite a wind blowing from this fire towards the Robinson house which was soon set afire by the sparks. With no water available the shingled roof was soon ablaze. The willing neighbours who attempted to save, if only a part of the contents, were soon throwing framed pictures and mirrors out of the windows and were very carefully carrying clothes and bedding down stairs.

J. M. was a well educated man and a good public speaker. He and Mrs. Robinson were anxious that their large family would be well educated. The eldest daughter, Gwen, attended Moulton College, Toronto, and later graduated from the Toronto General Hospital in nursing. Kathleen, too, graduated in nursing in Vancouver. Gladys and Marguerite also received good general educations, while Dorothy, the youngest, graduated in physical training at McGill University. The sons Will, Jack and Campbell, graduated in Arts at McMaster University (then in Toronto); later, Jack graduated in law at Osgoode Hall, Toronto; while Will graduated in medicine at Toronto University. Private practice did not appeal to him so he specialized in Pathology, and eventually became Pathologist to the Toronto General Hospital and head of the Department of Pathology at the University. He made two trips to Germany in order to study the teaching of Pathology. In Toronto, his laboratory was in the same building as that of Sir Frederick Banting, and the two became fast friends.

About 1905 Mr. Robinson Sr. became interested in another

tract that showed possibilities of being developed into orchard land. The benchland on the east side of Lake Okanagan and north of Penticton and just opposite Summerland was owned by Tom Ellis, who had operated a large cattle ranch that extended, with a few breaks to the international boundary. A cursory survey from Four Mile Creek to Chute Creek included about 12,000 acres, a large part of which could be brought under irrigation and devoted to fruit growing.

J. M. incorporated the Okanagan Trust Co. in order to raise the necessary capital and Ellis was protected as he received a portion of all receipts from the sale of fruit lots.

Irrigation from Naramata Creek would apparently provide ample water without which the land was useless for fruit growing. A townsite was laid out on a point that rose gradually and overlooked the lake. In 1905 a post office was opened in this townsite with J. S. Gillespie in charge, but he was soon succeeded by Harry Mulford. In 1908 W. R. Bartlett was appointed postmaster and held the position for many years until J. E. T. Warrington was given the post.

The name Naramata was chosen by Mr. Robinson after other names had been considered, viz, East Summerland and Brighton Beach. Narramattah, when simplified, became Naramata and was derived from a medium in the spirit-world whose name was said to mean Smile of Manitou. Other researchers claim the name means Place of Water and was derived from the native Australian language (OHS. 12 (1948) p. 212). A store, the Naramata Supply Co., handling general merchandise was opened the same year, and a small school was opened the next year. Mr. Robinson, D. H. Watson and others made trips to the prairie, selling fruit lots and arranging for the subsequent planting. The first settlers from outside include Bulman Brothers of Winnipeg and later of Vernon, Somerset Aikins and his son Carroll, J. S. and Mrs. Gillespie, the Manchester Brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Rounds from Michigan, Captain and Mrs. Lanquedoc from Quebec, T. H. Rayner, D. I. Walters, R. H. King and others.

Transportation was no easy matter and Naramata depended almost entirely on the C.P.R. sternwheelers. J. M. had a good power boat and also a house-boat that could be towed

to various points for anchorage. But the power boat was J. M.'s personal convenience and made no regular trips. The government called for tenders for a ferry to operate between Summerland and Naramata. In 1908, C. Noel Higgin obtained a charter for the 30 foot *Mallard* to make two trips daily. At the end of 1908 the Okanagan Boat Co. was incorporated with the following as chief shareholders: J. M. Robinson, Ned Bentley and C. N. Higgin. Then they operated the *Maud Moore* and besides the two daily ferry trips they ran chartered trips to Penticton and Kelowna. In 1911 the boat company was sold to Peter Roë. With other members of the Roe family including his brothers Fred and Gerald he operated the *Skookum* and the *Trepanier* in ferry service across the lake for a number of years. Captain Languedoc, a former deep sea captain was associated with them. The Roe family, which included the Pushmans, Davies, Noyes and Hughes of Naramata and the Grays of West Summerland represented quite an influx in their own right. Some of them were responsible for the erection of the Syndica Hotel at Naramata. It functioned briefly during Kettle Valley railway construction days. J. M. on his own account erected a hotel on the lakeshore but it, like the Syndica, eventually became a family home. In later years it was operated as a school.

With the improvement of the road between Naramata and Penticton and the advent of motor traffic, the trade between Summerland and Naramata gradually faded and the cross-lake boat service ceased. Peter Roe then interested himself in a boat service for the Canadian National which had entered the valley to compete with the C.P.R.

J. M. had great faith in the curative properties of the dry climate of the Okanagan and following the trend of many private hospitals in the U.S.A., he conceived the idea of opening a sanitorium in Naramata and he persuaded his brother-in-law, Dr. W. C. McKechnie, to join him in the venture. A foundation was laid for the intended building. Then Dr. McKechnie withdrew and moved to Vancouver, and the idea was dropped.

In the early days, in 1909 and 1910, J. M. arranged for a regatta to be held at Naramata. That was before the Kelowna

Peachland, Summerland and Naramata

Regatta became big business. But he got a big crowd with many dignitaries in attendance, including the Provincial Premier, Sir Richard McBride.

On October 18, 1910, the *S.S. Okanagan* with a party of C.P.R. officials including Sir Thomas (afterwards Lord) Shaughnessy, Wm. White, vice-president of the C.P.R., R. B. Angus, C. H. Hosmer, Chief Engineer Switzer, Captain Gore and Superintendent Kilpatrick, made a tour of inspection. Mr. Robinson was presented with Sir Thomas' personal cheque, of no mean figure, in appreciation of his work in founding Peachland, Summerland and Naramata.

In 1919 H.R.H. Edward, Prince of Wales, toured the valley on the *S.S. Okanagan*. He attended a ball in Penticton and danced with Gladys and Marguerite, two of J. M.'s daughters. Among the other girls who danced with him was a Penticton girl, good looking but a little short on manners. At the end of the dance, she called across the floor to a companion, "Hey Charlie, come here. I want you to meet the Prince."

J. M. Robinson was a man of magnetism and enthusiasm. He had no need to subscribe to the teachings of Dale Carnegie in order to win friends or influence people. He sold a fruit lot to Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, also one to Sir Edmund Osler, the financier, to Sir Edward Clouston, the president of the Bank of Montreal, Count Dentice, Senator Kirkhoffer, Hon. William Hespeler, and other influential persons, and further, saw that those lots were planted to the varieties popular in that day. The newcomers who began to pour in were said to be "hand picked" by J. M. and included many well-educated people.

After a long illness, Mr. Robinson died at his Naramata home on February 23, 1934 in his 80th year.

John Moore Robinson was a super real estate agent. He brought more settlers to the valley than anyone else. He stimulated interest in the soft fruit industry and saw it develop from practically nothing to one of the leading industries of British Columbia, even of Canada.

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So sad, so fresh, the days that are no more.—Tennyson.

From Shetland To Okanagan

Dorothea Mary Walker

My father, Gifford R. Thomson, was born at Uyea, Shetland, on April 8, 1848. At an early age he sailed before the mast, and after seeing much of the world landed in South Africa in 1870. The Kimberley diamond mines were then in full swing. In partnership with the Hon. William Bligh, Mr. Thomson went into the business of buying diamonds, and both amassed a small fortune.

Returning to Shetland, Mr. Thomson became the proud owner of Lochend, a beautiful estate which had always been to him Naboth's vineyard. He married Harriet Matilde, eldest daughter of John Inkster of South Hall, Shetland, in 1876. At Lochend most of their family were born.

Life was pleasant at Lochend. It was a sportsman's paradise: sailing, fishing and shooting he enjoyed to the full. But much of his fortune was lost in speculation; the time came when he could no longer afford to live at Lochend, and he determined to return to Kimberley, where he hoped to make a second fortune. But South Africa was closed to immigration at the time, so Mr. Thomson determined to come with his family to Canada. As a sailor he had visited Nova Scotia several times, and remembered the apple orchards there. When the family arrived in Halifax, he had already made up his mind to be an orchardist.

In Halifax my father was persuaded to go west. Fruit growing was being started in Okanagan. Lord Aberdeen's ventures at Coldstream and Guisachan had given the growing industry much publicity.

We landed at Okanagan Mission, our destination, in May, 1891. Rails had been laid from Sicamous to Vernon, but as yet there were no regular trains. The railway carriage in which we came to Vernon was like an old bus, two seats of yellow, slatted wood facing each other the length of the car. We were then taken to Okanagan Landing in democrats.

We came to what is now Kelowna in an old tub of a boat, very small, which nearly sank in a storm which lashed the lake that night. There was no Kelowna, no building, no wharf. We were taken from the steamer to the shore in a rowboat. I remember Dave Lloyd-Jones carried my brother Jack, then a small boy, ashore from the boat.

During the first fruit-growing boom my father bought uncleared land at \$60 an acre from G. G. Mackay. After building a house and clearing land, my father planted fruit trees only to see them die a few years later after making a very rapid growth. Water was too near the surface, just as it was at Guisachan where 200 acres of fruit trees had been planted. Before the orchard died he acquired a piece of lakeshore south of the Roman Catholic mission. Part of this is now known as "The Meadows." This was all uncleared land. Expenses were heavy, and no revenue was coming in, so he got the job for a time of driving the mail, three trips a week, between Okanagan Mission and Vernon. On this new property he built a second house. It had to be big to accommodate his large family. He sold it in 1904, and a few years later J. H. Baillie turned it into a hotel, the Bellevue. This well-known landmark was pulled down in 1954.

Life was often grim in these early days. Father had rented Bryn Mawr (later Allan Crichton's place) till his house on the Benvoulin property was ready. We arrived in May. The place was infested with bedbugs, and we quickly moved to an unfinished house with neither doors nor windows. Aggressive mosquitoes appeared in clouds. Finances got so low that he was forced to sell, one at a time, his jealously-guarded hoard of Kimberley diamonds to Birks of Montreal. He gave me two which I sent to Spinks of London, England, to be set into rings.

The last straw was reached when the brooch he had given to his wife as a wedding present had to be sold. It was anchored by a heavy gold chain to go around the neck, and inset at the back of the brooch with a photograph of G.R.T. The reason Mr. Lequime bought it was that the centre of the brooch was a large diamond of the finest water, which he wanted to have set in a ring for his wife. With that diamond my father got his start in cattle.

Years later, Mrs. Greene, wife of Archdeacon Greene, asked me to come down to the rectory as she was having to tea a guest who wanted to see me. I rode down. There at the rectory was Mrs. Gaston Lequime wearing a ring (claw setting) that took my breath away — it was the diamond ring out of my mother's brooch. Mrs. Lequime gravely handed me back the large and elaborate oval brooch (minus the diamond), and asked me if I thought mother would care to have it back again. I wonder where it is now?

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The Story Of Libraries In The Okanagan

Mrs. Muriel Page Ffoulkes, Regional Librarian

"Are you in favor of your municipality (or rural school district, as the case may be) becoming part of a union library district to be formed under the provisions of the Public Libraries Act?" was a question that all residents of the Okanagan from Revelstoke to Hedley, and from those living around the Shuswap Lake to Osoyoos, were asked to answer when they went to the polls in December 1935. The answer was "Yes" in all but three of the 60 places where the vote was taken. Hedley and Revelstoke felt that they were too far distant from the Okanagan to participate and Penticton was quite satisfied with the Public Library Association that was well established in the town, and did not want a change.

There had been public library associations in other centres in the valley; Salmon Arm, Armstrong and Spallumcheen, Enderby and Vernon in the north; Penticton, Peachland, Naramata, Keremeos to the south; there may even have been more, but Kelowna had never had a public library service. One reads in the article by the late F. M. Buckland in the Okanagan Historical Report of 1954 that, "Mr. E. R. Bailey had charge of Kelowna Lending Library, which had on its shelves a good supply of works of history, biography and fiction" (p. 74). This would be in the '90's, and I dare say that something of the kind was available at all times. But when the Union Library was first mooted, there were only one or two commercial lending libraries in the local drug and book stores in Kelowna. It happened in almost every case that by 1934 and 1935 these little Public Library Associations were at the end of their tether, either for lack of personnel to look after them, or, which is more likely, lack of funds to keep up a modern book stock. So when Dr. Helen G. Stewart, member of the Public Library Commission and past chief librarian of Victoria Public Library, came into the valley fresh from more than four years in the Fraser Valley, where she had been experi-

menting on the best type of library service for rural areas such as the B.C. valleys, she found the time was ripe for a change. As we have seen, the decision to try a more modern and economical service, whereby a union of districts was formed to contribute into a single fund to supply an equal service to all, was agreed upon.

Dr. Helen Stewart had spent all that year interesting people of the Okanagan, the Kootenay, and Vancouver Island districts in a union library service. At the end of the year two districts had voted for the service, but the Kootenays were not geographically suitable for such a service and still do not have one. The first thing Dr. Stewart had to do to form this new library district in the Okanagan was to arrange for a library board. Each organized district in the union must appoint a ratepayer from the district to represent them, and a member must also be appointed by the rural areas, one member for every 1,000 of population. The first meeting of the Board was called early in the year. Those present were:

Armstrong, C. W. Holliday; Spallumcheen, B. A. Holliday; Coldstream, Reeve E. J. Sunderland; Glenmore, Reeve G. C. Hume; Kelowna, Mayor O. L. Jones; Kelowna district, A. B. Wood; Peachland, Mrs. A. D. McKay; Salmon Arm City, Ald. R. W. Glasgow; Salmon Arm Munic., D. H. Leech; Salmon Arm District, Edward Beatty; Summerland, Reeve W. R. Powell; Vernon, Mayor E. W. D. Prowse; Keremeos, Mrs. K. E. Clarke; Oliver, F. L. Goodman; Oyama District, J. F. Anderson; Rutland, A. McMurray; Sicamous District, R. M. Fenton; Enderby City, C. E. Richards, member by courtesy.

Their first duties were: 1. Decide where the headquarters was to be. 2. Draw up a budget. 3. To appoint a librarian. On the first matter, when the vote on headquarters was taken, one deciding vote was cast for Kelowna. The budget, after much consideration, was presented by Mayor Prowse, of Vernon, who was chairman of finance, and called for the expenditure of \$11,125. Appointing a librarian also took some consideration. After exhausting all the possibilities near home, it was finally decided to ask Muriel Page, a librarian from the Toronto Public Library, to fill the post. She accepted and was in the Okanagan by the end of March, 1936.

Now the real work began, and many problems reared their ugly heads. Dr. Stewart was due to leave in April. No other staff had been appointed, no new books ~~books~~ had been ordered, no van had been bought. It would not have been so difficult had the public not been expecting an immediate library service. But they were. Their own little Library Associations had closed down as agreed upon when coming into the newly formed district; the books had been sorted and pooled, and here it was April and no books to read, in spite of the fact that taxation for library purposes had already started, at the per capita rate of 40 cents as had been agreed.

This rate did not leave enough margin for necessary expenses. There was not enough money for books, and the van was not even on the budget as it was hoped that some large-hearted person would donate one. So in many ways the Library got off to a poor start. Vernon, Armstrong and Salmon Arm all had branches opened in April and May, but the only books on the shelves were a hotch-potch of the old books that had been in the valley when the library took over, mixed with a few of the new books that had been purchased by the Carnegie Demonstration the year before, all of which had been left with the Okanagan Union Library. The new librarian did not know the country or the location of any of the 56 places that were to be served. She could not drive a car or use a typewriter. Her present quarters were in Vernon and she must find suitable ones in Kelowna as that city had been the choice of the Board for the headquarters. There were none to be found, so she must draw plans for a suitable building, to be built on a site owned by Orange Hall Company at the corner of Bertram and Bernard. This company started to build early in April and a rent of \$40 a month was agreed upon. But most important of all, she must start the books rolling in. Orders were sent for the basic books a library should have, for a basic children's collection, for new best sellers, for modern non-fiction. When the crates began to arrive, each book must be processed, classified, catalogued, pasted and stamped before allocating it to one of the branches. Miss Hope Hodges, a trained librarian from Ewing's Landing, had by this time come on the staff, and A. E. Akenhead of Ladysmith, V.I., who had been assisting Dr. Stewart with the Demonstration was

allowed by the Carnegie Foundation to stay on for two months to teach the librarian to drive and learn to know the district.

On April 24th, the temporary headquarters in Vernon where Dr. Stewart had been working was thrown open to the Vernon public. The first day 85 persons registered and 151 books were circulated. This meant that every day we had to deal with the public as well as try to order books and carry on the work of organizing a new district, all in one small room. It was not until May 30th, that the Vernon branch was opened in what had been the old jail. This branch was in the capable hands of Mrs. Spencer, who had been Vernon librarian under the old set-up. The branch in Salmon Arm had been opened on May 16, and on May 23, the Armstrong branch was opened with V. T. Pellett in charge. On June 1st, headquarters was moved from Vernon to Kelowna. Though the building was far from ready, enough space was available for typing to be done and there were shelves ready for books. On June 22nd, Kelowna branch was formally opened by O. L. Jones, who borrowed the first book. Miss Hodges, Miss Meg Gore, Miss Adelaide Atkinson and Miss Nancy Stiell were assisting that day and, with the exception of Miss Hodges, these librarians are still on headquarters staff. The Kelowna local committee then consisted of M. Frederickson, principal of the Junior High School, T. R. Hall, School Inspector, Mrs. J. A. S. Tilley, Mrs. H. W. Arbuckle, Mrs. S. M. Simpson and Mrs. T. F. McWilliams. The ladies of this committee served tea on the opening day to what seemed like more than half the Kelowna population. About 500 people registered that day and 362 books were circulated. The above-mentioned committee became known as the Pasting Ladies in library circles. Every Tuesday evening they came faithfully to paste labels and pockets into the new books. They had the joy of handling all the new books and putting their names down for all the ones they liked best, and we had the great satisfaction of knowing that all this routine work was being done without taking the precious time of a somewhat harassed staff of three. To join Miss Hodges, Miss Adelaide Atkinson had come back to her native B.C. from the Toronto Public Library where she had been on the staff ever since graduating from the Toronto Library School. Miss Gore did not join the staff for another

year, and Miss Stiell only occasionally did some typing — she had not yet taken her library training. By the end of that first year there was a staff of three trained librarians, a total book stock of 13,000, and a circulation of 86,500. Forty-two branches were in operation, with 8,400 people registered readers. Total disbursements had been \$10,797.19, and there was \$144.49 in the bank to start 1937.

But the library service was not giving satisfaction, no question about that. There were not nearly enough books to go round. The van did not make enough visits, and some of the larger places which had previously small libraries of their own began to compare the advantages of these small libraries with those of the larger system. The old system did not serve so great a membership and could not offer a trained staff, but at least the few people who wanted to read and were willing to pay the small membership for doing so could get the books they wanted without having to wait so long for them. The arrangement under the Act was that all units voting to come into the Library District must continue membership for three years, but after that time they might withdraw upon holding a plebiscite. To make a long unhappy story short, five large communities and four small ones took another vote and decided to withdraw. These were Vernon, Coldstream, Armstrong, Spallumcheen, Salmon Arm District, Hillcrest, Sicamous, Eagle Valley and Mara. All but Vernon are now back in the Library District. This was a great blow to the still new and struggling library. The budget was down to \$8,000. The per capita rate was now 43 cents. Expenses were cut in every direction possible. The service was continued and gradually started to grow again until in 1946, the consolidation of school districts in B.C. brought new legislation into use. The ruling was that where the majority of school districts in a consolidation were already a part of the Library District, then all members of the new district must become part of the Library District, and where the majority did not belong to a library district, then the whole district must not receive library service. This caused great confusion at first, and many meetings were held all over the district. The final settlement, however, was in the library's favour, and at the end of the year there was a larger area covered than ever before. Both Hedley and

Penticton were now brought into the library district. In 1947, the population served was 44,544, as against 23,384 in 1946, and the budget, at a 50 cent per capita rate, called for an expenditure of \$25,800. There were nine on the staff at headquarters and 47 branch custodians. Ever since that time, the library has continued to grow, slowly but surely. The headquarters building in Kelowna became overcrowded in every way — no room for needed staff, no room to house the book stock, no room to give an adequate service to the outlying districts. In 1953, the Board started to talk of a new building. In 1954, it became an accepted fact that a \$50,000 building was to be put up. The City of Kelowna donated a valuable corner on its civic centre property and donated \$25,000 toward the building of the Kelowna branch, which was still to be a part of the headquarters. The Government of B.C. made a grant of \$12,500, half of the cost of the headquarters. The Okanagan Regional Library bore the cost of the other half. Plans were drawn, contracts awarded, and the building started in August, 1954. The people of Kelowna formed a group of Friends of the Library and raised over \$1,500 towards the furnishing of the Kelowna branch. The Kelowna and District Art Group had been holding their meetings in the old library for some years. To show their appreciation, they presented the new library with tack-boards for the Board Room, thus making it possible for about forty or fifty pictures to be hung for exhibit. They also presented a cover to protect the beautiful oak table which the chairman, W. B. Hughes-Games, had presented to the library. The Lions Club of Kelowna also donated a table for use in the main circulating room. There is not space here to mention all the furnishings purchased with money collected by the Friends, but all has been greatly appreciated. The building was open for business on January 18, 1955, but was not officially opened until April 15th, when Hon. W. A. C. Bennett, Premier of the Province, cut the ribbon and declared the building open, after which the Hon. Ray Williston, Minister of Education, cut the ribbon across the entrance into headquarters, declaring it open, and Mayor J. J. Ladd opened the Kelowna branch in the same way.

It is interesting to note that the new library, on the corner of Queensway and Ellis streets, occupies the site of the first

The Story Of Libraries In The Okanagan

Kelowna school. This is fitting, as it is the function of a library to continue for its community the service started in school. Here citizens may add to knowledge gained in school and widen horizons first glimpsed from a class-room desk.

From its first start in 1936, when the library service was given to a population of 26,000, and the budget figure was \$10,000, the Okanagan Regional Library, as it is now called, has more than doubled its sphere of interest. In 1955, the population served is 70,095. The per capita rate of 75 cents, with assistance from the Provincial Government and other sources, brings in a revenue of \$68,380.00; staff at headquarters numbers 12. A total book stock of 62,145 volumes serves a total registration of 22,000 borrowers. There are 111 deposits of books, some large, some small, throughout the district. The quality of the reading has always been high in the Okanagan, and it continues to maintain its high standards. The library not only brings books to people, it is fast becoming a cultural centre for the community. Films are available to all who have projection facilities. Art exhibits are always to be found in the Board room.

The Kelowna Arts Council, the Kelowna Film Council, the Kelowna and District Art Group, hold their regular meetings in the Board room. It is the dream of the Library Board that in time the Kelowna building will expand so that it may have permanent club rooms and workshops for all those interested in the arts, letters and humanities.

The work with the boys and girls has grown in every way since the early days. Then, there was an occasional story over the air — CKOV has always been generous with its facilities — the occasional visit to the schools, and some classes were brought to the library. These things were done by the regional librarian, who stole the odd moment from her other duties to remember that once long ago in Toronto she had been a children's librarian. Now, there is Miss Eva Webb, a trained children's librarian, and she has a full-time assistant and part-time page assistant at the busiest times. She has a well-equipped children's room in the Kelowna branch and she uses the Board Room for story hours and visiting classes. She has permanent collections of books in some of the schools

and circulating ones in many more. She makes frequent visits to schools, addresses P.T.A.'s and other groups. This is a most rewarding side of the library work, and it is with great satisfaction that such progress is reported.

The Okanagan Regional Library has been fortunate in its staff. The fact that so many have continued with the library through all its ups and downs has made for special interest in its growth and a pride in its achievements as well as a desire to see that the standards are maintained in the future. Mention should also be made of Mrs. Cecile Royle who, from 1937 until her death in 1951, was the much beloved head of the Kelowna branch.

Before drawing these brief reminiscences to a close, it is fitting that mention be made of the three chairmen of the Board who have done so much to keep the library always forward in the eyes of the people. O. L. Jones was chairman of the first Board and remained in that position for the first twelve years. When he left the Valley for the House of Commons in Ottawa, his vice-chairman, Mrs. F. J. Foot took his place for two years, and for the last five years, W. B. Hughes-Games, has been the guiding light in library affairs. It is due to their knowledge of the people they represent, their ability in building for the future and to the way in which they have given advice and encouragement to the staff, that the library has achieved what it has in its first two decades.

NOTE BY MRS. D. ALLISON

After reading Mrs. Ffoulkes' excellent account of our Okanagan regional library it will be interesting to delve a little further into the past, and find how people in the early days collected and distributed their reading matter. Mrs. Ffoulkes, quoting F. M. Buckland (OHS.18, pp.69ff), tells that "E. R. Bailey had charge of Kelowna lending library, which had on its shelves a good supply of works of history, biography and fiction." These shelves were put up in the back of the post office, and the first books were donated by Lady Aberdeen in 1903. One of the daughters of the postmaster (E. R. Bailey) acted as librarian. In the years following good commercial lending libraries were opened by Willits Drug and Book Store, Spurriers Sporting Goods store, and Morrison's Book Store.

In outlying districts the Women's Institutes were mainly responsible for providing library facilities. At Okanagan Centre, for example, the Institute voted money to buy books, and appointed

a librarian. Members also donated books to form a library. At one time, as many as 556 books were in circulation, and books were exchanged with other Institutes that had libraries. The book cupboard was kept in the Presbyterian church, which was also used as a school room, and since pulled down. This continued till 1936 when Okanagan Centre joined the Union Library.

Reading in the "History of Oyama", which won a first award in the Tweedsmuir village history contest of 1951, we learn that the Women's Institute realized its plans for a library as early as February 22, 1915, with Miss G. Heddle its first librarian. In 1924, the Women's Institute formed the Book of the Month club, and also arranged for an exchange of books with other libraries. In 1936, the people of Oyama voted themselves into the Union library, and are ardent supporters of this wider scheme.

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Dry Valley School

GEORGE F. STIRLING

In 1908 an Assisted School was organized in the Glenmore district which was then known as Dry Valley. It would have been difficult at that time for anyone to have given the exact latitude and longitude of the school, because the two surveys from north and south did not meet, and the surveyors were making a re-survey of the district. The Hon. Price Ellison had tried to purchase some 800 acres a few years before, but the matter was tied up pending the survey. They were busy on that job when I was appointed teacher at the new school. My wife and I were living in a tent in the Eccleston bush, as my application for a pre-emption was also tied up.

The school stood in the jackpines just off the Dry Valley Road and about ten miles north of Kelowna. The development in later years of the fruit-growing industry had made such a change in the appearance of the country, that when I visited the district thirty years later I could not find the location of the school, or the jackpines, or the old road. Orchards had replaced the jackpines and many new roads criss-crossed in every direction. It must, however, have been somewhat near the Eccleston Slough.

There were, if I remember rightly, about thirteen or fifteen children on the roll with seven different grades. I tried a few years ago to find out from the Education Department the names of the children, but I was informed by the then deputy-minister that they had no records of the school, and suggested that they may have been taken over by Rutland, or Kelowna. I wondered if they had any record in the Finance Department of my monthly cheque of \$60, but I let the matter drop. There were children in the school named McKinley, Bowers, Eccleston and a few Indian children, and some others whose names I have forgotten.

As there was no school for miles around, some of the children had been brought up without any schooling whatever. One boy, aged 16, could neither read nor write nor count. I

bought a saddle pony from him for \$40 and he could not count the money which I gave him, but said his brother would count it when he went home. This boy was chewing tobacco when he came to school and struggling over such difficulties as "Sam can run" in the first reader. Another boy, aged 13, found it impossible to make the figure 3. He always curled it the wrong way round like a capital "E". But although some of the scholars were not very apt in reading, writing and arithmetic, they were well informed on all that pertained to nature in their surroundings. They knew the habits and haunts of the wild animals and birds, and their tracks in the snow. If I had mail to be taken to Kelowna, one boy would go and see if Mr. so-and-so had gone to town. Democrat, buggy, wagon or horseman, he knew them all and the habits of their owners.

The Indians in the district were very friendly to us as we were living under canvas, bringing us occasionally a duck, or goose, and on one occasion we had half a deer from them. That was during the hardest winter known in the Okanagan for many years. The deer froze solid so that I had to saw the meat, and the saw-dust made excellent saw-dust soup. I have lost track of the children who attended the school in those days. What the school did for them it would be hard to tell, but my own education was considerably advanced while teaching at that little Dry Valley School during 1909 and 1910.

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North Okanagan Memories

S. R. Bowell¹

In my Okanagan days nobody thought of diaries or records, so all I have to depend on is memory. My family came to British Columbia from Newfoundland, where my grandparents settled, around 1800. They were English and Irish. My father, Robert Bowell² was brought up a fisherman, but his brother John³ became a Methodist minister, and was sent to British Columbia as a missionary. He sent back such glowing reports of the great new country beside the Pacific Ocean that Robert decided to leave the codfish of the Grand Banks, the seals of the ice floes and the dog teams of Labrador, and seek his fortune in British Columbia.

John (the Rev. J. P. Bowell) arranged a job for him as captain of a river steamboat running from Tranquille on Kamloops Lake to Enderby on the banks of the Spallumcheen (now the Shuswap) River. He left St. John's, Newfoundland, sometime in 1883, travelling by boat to Boston, Mass., thence by train to San Francisco, then by boat to New Westminster. From here he travelled by river boat and wagon trail to Tranquille where he

1. Stephen Robert Bowell: born at Nicola on 2 July, 1884. Lived in Okanagan from 1885 (or 1886?) to August, 1909; New Westminster 1909-1915; Vancouver 1915-1925; Edmonton, Alberta 1925-1929; Nelson 1929-1937; Vancouver 1937 to present. For thirteen years he worked for Burns & Co. as egg grader and foreman; and was Dominion Government poultry inspector for 25 years, retiring in 1949. In August, 1909, he married Miss Charlotte Johnson. Of this union were born two daughters and two sons: Lyla (Mrs. B. Skodje, Burnaby); Bonnie (Mrs. O. Tupper, Vancouver); Gordon, Queen's University Rhodes Scholar in 1941, held the rank of Major in World War II, and was awarded the M.B.E. He did post-graduate work at Harvard, and is now general manager of Canadian White Pine Co. Ltd., Vancouver. His brother Stephen graduated B.Sc. (U.B.C.) and is now chemical engineer, synthetic rubber specialist, Glidden Paint Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

2. Robert Bowell's father was for 25 years a soldier in the British Army.

3. Rev. John Perry Bowell was born at St. John's, Newfoundland, in 1851, and died at New Westminster, B.C., on June 6, 1926. He was appointed to the Methodist charge of Nicola, his first field in the British Columbia Conference, in 1883, and to Maple Bay in 1887. He would be in Nicola to the end of June, 1887.

took up his duties with William Fortune, the boat owner.⁴

His engagement, however, was short-lived. One Saturday night he tied up at Tranquille. On Sunday morning Mr. Fortune wanted the boat loaded. Dad was a staunch Methodist and refused to work on Sunday. When the boat owner insisted, Dad packed his dunnage and walked ashore. He moved to Nicola⁵ where his brother John was stationed, and there I was born on July 2, 1884. I had been preceded by two children, and was followed by five, making a family of eight, of whom six are still living.⁶

My parents stayed in Nicola till late in 1885, or early in 1886. They moved to the Okanagan, buying a half section of wild land, four miles northwest of what is now the city of Armstrong, from William Powell. Our neighbours were C. C. Tilton, an American; Alex Crawford, an Ontario Scot, Aaron Ford, another Scot and Big Bill Richardson, a towering, black bearded Irishman who was a staunch and progressive Orangeman with a special fondness for the "Ould Crathur."

Big Bill had a team of the most beautiful dapple grey horses I have ever seen. Nobody but Bill could handle them. He would drive to Lansdowne, where he would drink to the health of King William, and then start out for home. Just how he navigated the twisting, rutted wagon trail across Wallace's Flat, down Deep Creek canyon, and up the long slope home, only Tommy and Johnny (the greys) and the guardian spirit of all over-enthusiastic Orangemen will ever know. But make it he would, and come charging up the lane at a dead gallop, roaring out all the Orange songs he knew. Dad, himself a good

4. William Fortune was a native of Yorkshire, England, came to Canada in 1857, and was employed as a tanner at St. David's, Ontario. Coming to British Columbia, he entered the service of the HBC at Kamloops, and later settled at Tranquille. He built the **Lady Dufferin** in 1878, operating between Savona and Spallumcheen settlements. Married Jane McWha at Lytton. Sold their Tranquille property to the B.C. Tuberculosis Society as site for sanatorium. Mr. Fortune died at Kamloops, December 1, 1914. (**The Overlanders of '62** by Mark Sweeten Wade, M.D.; Memoir No. IX, Archives of British Columbia, 1931, p. 161).

5. Revs. James Turner and George Murray began Methodist and Presbyterian work in Nicola Valley in 1875.

6. Mary, Will, Stephen, Emma, Walter, Frank, Alice and George. Emma and Frank are dead.

Orangeman, would generally hear Bill coming, open the gate, unhitch and unharness the foaming greys, and put Bill to bed.

Lansdowne⁷ was the hub of the North Valley in those days. There was the hotel, run by an enormously stout individual named Cartwright; Wood & Rabbits general store; Harry Schneider's blacksmith shop; and the Presbyterian Church. The minister, Rev. John Knox Wright,⁸ was a real, old Covenanter, and many the time I have been jarred awake by the thud of his fist on the pulpit. There was also Wallace the magistrate, and a pioneer wheat rancher, and Frank Young. Later, the Marshalls and the Heards moved in, occupying farms to the south and east of the village. The land, a heavy clay, was rich but difficult to work. The doctor, a German named Offerhaus,⁹ set broken bones, stitched up axe and knife cuts, and generally ministered to the health of the community. He did not have to work too hard as a rule, for we were a pretty healthy lot.

Our farm was lightly timbered, the north quarter with a fine stand of ponderosa pine, and the south quarter dotted with mountain fir. The pine was a godsend for Dad, who at that time had no logging equipment, sold it on the stump to Patten's mill. He also worked at the mill, and thus got a start in the new country. In the middle of the south quarter occurred an extensive outcrop of crystal marble, and on the north quarter the outcropping was grey granite. To Dad these were merely rocks till one day a prospector named Pickering dropped in on his

7. Lansdowne, formerly Spallumcheen post office, north of Armstrong, named after Lansdowne hotel of E. M. Furstineau (or Furstenau) pioneer farmer of 1874. The hotel, opened July 1, 1885, was named in honour of the Governor General, Lord Lansdowne (See OHS. 6, p. 138; OHS. 12, p. 209).

8. Rev. J. K. Wright served the district from 1889-1896, when he responded to a call from Cooke's church, Chilliwack, B.C. He died in Vancouver in February, 1925.

9. Dr. E. J. Offerhaus was probably the first medical man to practice in Okanagan. He was a native of Holland, and registered in 1883. He lived at Lansdowne and after the completion of the Shuswap and Okanagan railway covered the Armstrong and Endorby areas (Dr. F. W. Andrew in OHS. 12, p. 137). Guy P. Bagnall in letter 8 August, 1955, sends this further note: "Dr. Offerhaus was employed by the Department of Indian Affairs. He was married and had a son and a daughter. The son moved from the district. The daughter, who was a school teacher, married a Mr. Wilson at Kamloops. Mrs. Offerhaus died of T.B., probably at Kamloops, and Dr. Offerhaus returned to Holland about the year 1915, where he died a few years later."

way south from the Cariboo goldfields. I do not know his initials, or anything else about him. If this seems strange, please remember that in those days questions were not asked. More than one of those enjoying our hospitality had good reason for visiting the Okanagan. The little town of Oroville, just south of the border, rejoiced in the reputation of being the "hottest" town in North America. It was ideally situated for the outlaw fraternity, being only an hour's ride from "across the line," and safe from pursuit.

But to get back to Pickering: Dad was clearing land, and in the process had made a log-pile bonfire. The visitor picked up a couple of pieces of dull grey stone by the path, and tossed them into the fire. The pile burned for a week or so. When the ashes had cooled he kicked the stones out onto the path, and called Dad to bring some water, which he poured on the stones. After a few minutes they started to hiss and bubble till they were reduced to powder. The crystal marble had turned into lime. Thus was born an industry which furnished lime for the buildings of the valley during the period of its first development. For twenty years we conducted the business using the marble for lime, the granite for kilns, and the fir timber for fuel. We sold in 1908 to people whose ignorance of the process promptly ruined the industry.

Of the human flotsam and jetsam drifting up and down the valley during this period, some drifted to the land and took root. Of these, two, Sam Gray and George Paton, are worthy of note, for both were pioneers in what eventually became the biggest business of the valley. Sam settled on a place that had about ten acres open to south and east, and sheltered on the northwest by a range of hills, thus furnishing an ideal location for fruit. And well I remember his luscious cherries and plums, and the biggest black currants I have ever seen or hope to see. He peddled his fruit through the valley, as also did our neighbour Tilton, who specialized in strawberries.

George Paton operated the first commercial apple orchard in the north valley, and there was one tree from which the boys could pick the fruit. I can taste those Red Astrachans yet.

I attended Round Prairie school,¹⁰ and came under the

10. Round Prairie school: see article OHS. 16 (1952) pp. 69-94. On p. 94 Steve Bowell is in photograph of school group.

tutelage of its three teachers: Thomas LeDuc, Miss Martha J. Norris and H. A. Fraser.¹¹ Of the two first mentioned I remember very little, but to Harry Fraser I owe the groundings of my education; and more than that, the example of a clean-living, sensible, patient gentleman.

My father being a deeply religious man soon turned his attention to the religious needs of the community. Shortly after the school was built he organized a Sunday School, which he conducted till he left the district. He was also instrumental in getting the Methodists to establish a preaching service, and later to build the church which still stands at the crossroads on the hill. In this respect he stands with Alexander Leslie Fortune¹² of Enderby, and Donald Matheson of Hullcar,¹³ as an outstanding pioneer in the religious life of North Okanagan.

When Dad came to the valley mixed farming was unheard of. First, there was no market, and, secondly, the valley was regarded only as grazing land, where the cattlemen reigned supreme. Beginning at Armstrong and running south the ranchers were: Tronson, O'Keefe & Greenhow, Postill Brothers, Casorso Brothers and Tom Ellis. North from Armstrong were the smaller holdings, and it was here that the real agricultural development had its inception. The grist mill at Patten's, and another started at Enderby, created a market for wheat, and for

11. Harry Archibald Fraser had lived in Armstrong since 1891. His death is reported in OHS. 16 (1952), p. 70. He was 81 years old. In 1897 he married Catherine Honora Schubert.

12. See OHS. 15 (1951): "A. L. Fortune's Autobiography," by Dr. M. A. Ormsby, pp. 25-40.

13. Donald Matheson was born at Ploeton, Ross-shire, Scotland. He came to Canada in 1872, and was for a time captain on the Great Lakes. He came to Lulu Island, B.C., and worked on the Fitzgerald McLeary farm. He walked to Okanagan Valley and pre-empted land at Hullcar in 1878. In 1884, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Fortune, he was married to Ruth Rollinson of Bradford, England. To them were born two sons and one daughter: Daniel Crawford, who died 14 December, 1907; Kenneth James, retired and now living at Vernon; and Sarah Bethia, now Mrs. A. L. Patchett of Quesnel. Donald Matheson died at Hullcar on 28 November, 1914. Mrs. Matheson died there in July, 1941, aged 87.

Mr. Matheson served on the first council of the Spallumcheen municipality, and was first reeve of Spallumcheen after its secession from Armstrong city. He was also president of the first local agricultural society, and active member of the Farmers' Institute, and a staunch elder in Enderby Presbyterian church (note supplied by G. P. Bagnall).

many years this was the main crop. However, with the constant cropping to cereals the soil became exhausted and choked with weeds. Fortunately, about this time mining developments in the Kootenays, and in Similkameen, resulted in the rise of towns — Nelson, Kaslo, Sandon, Greenwood,¹⁴ Rossland and Phoenix. These towns required fruit and vegetables as well as beef and flour, thus providing markets for the produce of mixed farming. When this market petered out, the influx of population into the valley took up some of the slack, and the initiative of such men as William McNair, Tom Fletcher and others, started a marketing system which now extends round the world.

We left the valley in 1908, after sharing its ups and downs for 24 years. Although this is nearly fifty years ago, I still regard Armstrong as my home town, and take a peculiar pleasure in revisiting old scenes, and old friends. If these rambling reminiscences give any pleasure, or add anything to the historical lore of our beloved province, I shall feel amply repaid.

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14. Greenwood, named for pioneer Okanagan merchant named Wood.

W. D. Walker

Dorothea M. Walker



W. D. Walker

A link with the "Old-Timer" days was broken when, on June 2, 1953, William Dalziel Walker, only son of W. T. Walker of Oxford, England, died after a lingering illness. He was born at Morecombe, Lancashire, England, and was educated at St. Edward's, Oxford.

He was given no choice as to what career he would follow. From his earliest youth he was brought up and educated with the fixed idea of taking Holy Orders, to fill a rich living belonging to his grandfather on his estate at Catterall Hall, Giggleswick, Yorkshire.

At the age of nineteen he refused to go into the Church, to the great disappointment of his father, and grandfather. After many years of the study of Latin and Greek and the classics he was ill fitted to earn a practical living. His father in desperation suggested, "How about trying to farm in the colonies?" Unfortunately, Mr. Walker knew no one in the colonies (a few relatives in India were in military service) but they did know a man who had a brother farming in Keremeos, B.C. This was the Dean of Ely, whose brother, Edward Bullock-Webster, had been farming for some years in Similkameen.

Interviews were arranged with the Dean, letters were written to his brother, and before long an arrangement was made whereby young William was to go to Edward Bullock-Webster as a farm



Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Walker

pupil for a year.

He arrived at Penticton on August 8, 1894, attired in heavy tweed Norfolk jacket, and matching heavy cloth cap, on a blistering day, and was met by Mr. Bullock-Webster with a springless wagon. Two days on the journey to Keremeos, over impossible roads, convinced him this was not green Oxford with its cricket, boating and other pleasures.

At the end of eighteen months with Mr. Bullock-Webster, his father sent him a sum of money with which to buy land to farm on his own. He was persuaded to put this money into shares in the Fairview Mines (then booming) and into a Fairview townsite lot, on which he paid taxes for years and finally lost it.

It was during his stay in the lower country that he was so kindly befriended by the Rev. Thomas Greene and his wife—a friendship that lasted the rest of their lives. In 1893 Tom Ellis, the cattle king, had built a small church in Penticton and Mr. Greene was appointed to this living. He took services at the outlying settlements such as Keremeos, and at Trout Creek where George Barclay had built a small church. In 1894 Kelowna, then a tiny settlement, was added to his charge. Distances were great, roads impossible, and in 1897 the parish was sub-divided. Mr. Greene chose Kelowna as his parish for the rest of his life, but whether in Penticton or Kelowna Mr. Greene's vicarage was a second home to W. D. Walker for over 40 years.

In 1901 W. D. Walker had the good fortune, in partnership with his old friend W. D. Hobson, to buy from the Roman Catholic priests, that fine piece of land on the lakeshore at Okanagan Mission. They divided it between them tossing a "quarter" as to who would have which half. W. D. Walker got the part he wanted (it had the most creeks on it) and proceeded at once to clear the heavily timbered land. So heavy was the timber that he had Crawford's sawmill set on the site where the Okanagan Mission Community Hall now stands, which acre he gave a few years later as ground for a tennis court. Near the site of the sawmill he had Alec Bernard build him his first two-roomed bachelor shack. And early in 1904 he had Johnny Curtis build his first house, now known as the "Middlemass".

In October 1904 he married Dorothea Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gifford R. Thomson of Okanagan Mission. In those early days a new home was "open house." The Mission seemed to be alive with young men, nice boys with public school education, a love of sport, and not too great a love for hard work! It seemed to me in our new house we seldom ate a meal alone — any hands on the place (and we usually had one or two people working) stopped at 10:30 a.m. for tea. The same happened at 4 p.m., and usually there would be an impromptu "party" — everybody in working clothes .

Living was cheap — can you picture the days when bacon was ten cents a pound, bread (unwrapped and not always clean in delivery) three loaves for twenty-five cents, and the best of whiskey \$1.00 a bottle?

W. D. Walker proceeded to put in first ten, then a further seven acres of orchard. How he loved that orchard! I found to my dismay that W. D. had the tails of his shirts torn off (and they were good English shirts with long tails). "What on earth has happened to those shirts?" I asked. "Well, you see" was the unabashed reply, "a couple of the young trees had broken branches and I needed something with which to bind them."

Meanwhile land clearing went on apace. But in spite of hard work, life in those days seemed leisurely. Dances were great fun, especially the private ones, and "believe it or not" in those earliest days, "full dress clothes" for men and women was *de rigueur*. Picnics, riding parties (everyone had a saddle horse), paper chases and coyote hunts were popular. Land-owners like Billy Barlee bred fine saddle horses. Polo was one of the leading games, and we had some fine riders here — none better than Billy Barlee. (This game became almost extinct here when all the young men went to the war of 1914-18).

The first sports club in the valley was organized in our house by W. D. Walker and Alec Bell (then a farm pupil), in 1907; and cricket, football, and tennis became popular. In 1907 W. D. was made captain of the first Okanagan Mission cricket team, and this continued for seven and a half years. Allan Crichton was captain of the Kelowna team and it never seemed any trouble to get up a match.

On one occasion years before the church was built here, a church service had been arranged at Okanagan Mission, this service to be in our house. I had not been told about it. W. D. (acting as Rector's warden) had evidently forgotten about it, and also forgotten to post a notice at the little local store. A cricket match had been arranged between Kelowna and Okanagan Mission. The ground was that bit of property just below what is now Hall Bros. store. The Rev. Thomas Greene arrived at the house to take service. Hurriedly I sent a message to the cricket ground to W.D. A council of war was held by the team and it was decided that the two captains, Allan Crichton, and W. D. Walker, should approach Mr. Greene with a request to put off the service. This they did with a good deal of diffidence and trepidation. A clergyman less kindly would have risen in righteous wrath at such a suggestion—not so Mr. Greene. He looked at the two men, shook his head, and sadly said "I could forgive it if the men making this request were not two of my staunchest churchmen — and one of them my Rector's warden." The cricket match was put off, not the service, and Mr. Greene had a big congregation that Sunday.

Among our greatest pleasures was having Mr. and Mrs. Greene and family camping on our lake-shore. Year after year they came — to our great delight. It was the only holiday to which a parson's meagre stipend ran. Luckily all the Greene family liked camping.

The fall of 1902 was perfect camping weather, but the 1903 camping began under anything but pleasant circumstances. Mr. Greene's only means of transportation was his large row-boat *The Colleen*. This was loaded with two tents, bedding, clothes, dishes, pots and pans, food, and a camp-stove, besides Mr. and Mrs. Greene and five young children. After embarking at Kelowna, a terrible storm of wind and rain arose, and the party were alarmingly late in arriving at W.D.'s lakeshore. He had a roaring campfire ready for them. At this time W.D. had no wharf and landing was difficult. Once safely ashore they and all their belongings were put under some dense trees for shelter, while Mr. Greene and W.D. (heads covered in cowls of gunny sacks) proceeded to put up the tents, and the tin stove. No need to dwell on the discomforts of that night! But next morning W.D. arrived at the camp with a wagon load of build-

ing lumber. He and Mr. Greene got busy and put up a two-roomed shack which Mr. Greene christened "Parson's Pleasure."

W.D. put up another and larger camp in 1905 for ourselves, two or three hundred feet from the Green's camp, and here nearly every autumn evening we joined forces around a great camp fire. Sunday afternoon was a great day for visitors to arrive. They came from far and near, usually to tea, and often some stayed to supper. By pooling our resources we managed somehow. Dr. and Mrs. Boyce often brought a boiled ham, someone else a few loaves of bread, someone a cake. What happy times we had

In 1913 W.D. sold his house (Middlemass) and 10 acres of orchard to Dr. Wansbrough-Jones; and had the two lakeshore camps joined together, renovated, and added to; and here, after nearly a year's holiday in England, we returned to live.

Always a keen orchardist, Mr. Walker became interested in the organization and marketing of fruit. From 1932 to 1945 he was a member of the Dominion Fruit Board. His opinions were considered valuable, for in 1946 he was sent by B.C. Tree Fruits Ltd. to the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia, to demonstrate the Okanagan method of packing and handling apples.

For 33 years he was a trustee at Okanagan Mission school. There was plenty of hard work attendant to this position in the old days, work which now is looked after by the School District. Many times did he light the fires in the winter, and many times was he out with team and plough to clear the snow!

W.D. was very keen about water sports, and he took an active interest in the Aquatic Club from the time of its inception. He was, with J. F. Burne, one of the best divers in the valley, until he had to give it up due to a "football knee," acquired at school in England, which handicapped him in many games such as tennis and football. He judged the diving at the Kelowna Regatta until within two years of his death. He taught many young people in the district to swim and dive. Many were the hours spent walking up and down the wharf, boat-hook in hand. The boathook held a saddle girth in which was an aspiring swimmer, gently and firmly being given confidence to take the first strokes. He was interested also in track and field

sports, and for many years was a familiar figure at the inter-school meets.

Perhaps the work that was most outstanding in his life was his work for his church. It was a labour of love. It meant plenty of hard work, especially in the earlier years.

We had a service at least once, sometimes twice, a month. The Archdeacon had to be fetched from Kelowna. The drive from Kelowna for many years lay (after leaving what is now Bernard Ave.) between Guisachan and Pridham's place, and Allan Crichton's ranch and on to the Benvoulin Hotel; from there on south, past the Roman Catholic mission, and over the swamp road in all its various stages of being cobbled up to make it passable, and on to W.D.'s house. In bad weather it was all a horse or team could do to pull a buggy or a democrat through the mire. W.D. would drive to Kelowna for the Archdeacon on Saturday afternoon, and we had the great pleasure of having him as our guest for part of the week-end.

On Sunday morning W.D. would hitch up the buggy and drive to church to see that it was really warm. (Even today, in 1955 we have no furnace heat in St. Andrew's). Then back home to milk several cows and do the rest of the chores, and then back to church with the Archdeacon, sometimes at 8 a.m., sometimes for Matins.

After luncheon he would drive the Archdeacon back to Kelowna. For many years, and until he felt that younger men should be doing the work, he was the Archdeacon's very able warden, and this meant never missing a service.

As his old friend, H. V. (Paddy) Acland wrote in a touching tribute to his memory, printed in the *Courier* of July, 1953:

"The attributes we will remember most were his kindness and happiness. Coupled with a wonderful sense of humor was his ability to see good in everything. I think we can quote DuBose Heyward to finish the account of a good and kind citizen of Okanagan Mission:

"Compassionate the mountains rise,
Dim with the wistful dimness of old eyes,
That, having looked on life, time out of mind,
Know that the simple gift of being kind
Is greater than all wisdom of the wise."

Pioneering

Robert S. Hall¹
as told to
His Daughter, Gladys

I was 21 years of age in March, 1882, healthy and ambitious. Coming from a line of English yeoman, who had tilled the soil of Plawsworth in the County of Durham, England, for many generations, it was natural that I should be interested in the land. About that time my attention was directed to the reports of twelve tenant-farmers who had been invited to Western Canada by the Canadian Government the previous year to inspect the agricultural possibilities of the newly-opened prairie land west of the Red River. With pamphlets and addresses these reports were spread throughout Great Britain by the twelve Argonauts, who had travelled half-way around the world to spy out the promised land with its crops of golden wheat.

As a result, the imaginations of many young and middle-aged Britishers were excited. They were anxious and eager to better their station in life, and to cast their lot with others who had immigrated to Canada in previous years.

I was living in Manchester at the time and, influenced by the prospect of free land in a new country, I, along with three other Manchester boys, booked passage on the *S.S. Polynesian* in April, arriving in Winnipeg by way of Montreal, Chicago and Emerson in May. Within a few days of my arrival in the young prairie capital, I obtained a job on the farm at Burnside, west of Portage la Prairie, owned by Kenneth McKenzie, M.P. The acreage of this farm had been determined by a boundary which McKenzie was able to plough around in one day. While working on this farm I became friendly with a man named Alfred Cole. We stayed there until after harvest. Cole and I were not long in finding another job in a sawmill at Morris, south of Winnipeg. Here we worked until the following spring.

1. Robert S. Hall died on September 25, 1935.

Hearing of a country opening up on the northwest border of the then small province of Manitoba, Cole and I took the main line train to Whitewood. From there we headed north for the York Colony, with our blankets on our backs, following a trail left by three settlers with their ox team a few days earlier. Upon our arrival at the banks of the Qu'Appelle River, we found the river swollen by spring freshets, and a settler by the name of Ben Boak waiting for lumber to build a ferry. He had already stretched a cable across the river, but by some mischance only one of the pulleys needed to operate the ferry had been shipped in. So until another one arrived he advised us to stay with him and help to build the scow. This we were very reluctant to do because of a shortage of food.

The following day, however, two Canadians arrived in camp and, declaring they would not be stopped by a little thing like a river in flood, set to work with their axes and built a raft. They then attached it to the single pulley on the cable and sent it out across the river. On reaching mid-river the raft turned upside down, and then continued on to the other side. First one and then the other Canadian tried to ride this treacherous contraption, with the same result each time. On reaching mid-stream, the raft turned completely over with its passenger frantically striving to keep on the upper side. My turn came next, for I had determined to push on to our destination at all costs. After stripping to the "buff", and tying my clothes in a bundle, with my English lever watch bound to the back of my head in a handkerchief to keep it dry, if possible, I boarded the makeshift ferry and started across with the same result—the raft turned upside down in the middle of the river, while I had to scramble on top, with everything I possessed soaked. Even the precious watch was full of water when I finally reached the other bank.

Cole refused to follow, so while our clothes were drying in the sun and wind, we three walked along the riverside to where the banks were sufficiently narrow to allow Boak and Cole to throw "bannocks" across the water to us. With that meagre supply of food in our possession, we dressed and started out to follow the tracks of the three wagons that had crossed in low water some days before. That night we camped

in a thicket of oak scrub, with a good fire for company. Soon after it grew dark we were startled to hear something crunching through the bush. It turned out to be a very hungry Indian, who told us he had had nothing to eat for two days, and proved it by eating up all of our grub he could stuff into himself. This left us shorter still.

In a day and a half, travelling without food, we reached the White Swan River, where the Meredith brothers from Toronto had built a cabin the year before. This place was eventually the townsite of Yorkton, named for their home city. It was first named York City. At this place we were able to get really filled up on fish, potatoes and bannock; also a needed rest. Two days later Cole turned up with Ephraim Boak, who was in charge of an immigrant train going as far as the Wallace settlement. After a week of prospecting around this park-like country, Cole and I decided to locate some six miles east, and filed on Section 24, Range 26, Tp. 3. That summer we broke up land and erected buildings on our homesteads to comply with government regulations. With many other homesteaders we helped to establish civilization in that section of the prairie, which has since become famous for mixed farming. In the four years we were holding down our claims, and proving up our homesteads, we were frozen out twice and had only half a crop the other two seasons. We also experienced two prairie fires.

There was little or no money in the country. Wheat sold for 30 to 40 cents a bushel; oats, 25 cents a sack, and dressed hogs brought 5 cents a pound in trade.

During the time we were homesteading, we found ourselves embroiled in the Second Riel Rebellion. The half-breeds and Indians around us became very restless. Scattered settlers, with their women and children, congregated at the York Farmers stone mill for mutual protection. A company of 100 volunteers was formed, with military drill under a sergeant-major who, with a hundred rifles, had been sent up from Ottawa. Soldiers and settlers joined in constructing a stockade for protection of the white population, but on its completion, the volunteers were the ones who occupied the fortifications, much to the disgust and alarm of the settlers, who were left

outside. When this volunteer company was formed we felt that either Cole or myself should join up. We talked it over and finally it fell to the lot of Cole to be the soldier, while I held a lonesome and jumpy job, stalking around through the bush with a dog and a pig and gun for company, and keeping an eye on our cattle in the field for fear they would be run off by the rebels.

One day a wagon train of settlers from Wallace came by our place on their way to Armstrong Lake, where fortifications of some kind had been built. They begged me to join them, pointing out what my position would be, all alone in the bush, if the farm was raided and the stock stolen. However, I decided to stay with the homesteads and take my chances, and by good fortune was not molested. After the Rebellion died down, my partner, Alfred Cole, was married to an English girl (who came out to him from home) at Moosomin on the C.P.R.

The crop failure of 1886 left me so disgusted with that part of Saskatchewan that I decided to look farther afield, hoping to find a better country. Travelling to Brandon, I obtained a work-pass on the C.P.R. to go to the mountains, where snowsheds were being constructed, but on reaching the Bow River in Alberta, I started work there. This river was on the rampage. A sawmill company was bringing logs down, and these jammed against the centre piling of two bridges on the railway, taking them out. My job was to help clear the jam, and to assist in transporting passengers and mail by hand car between the two bridges, over a three-mile stretch of track, parts of it hanging in midair across the river. This was a hazardous ride over treacherous track that was undermined in places, causing many and varied reactions from our passengers. I remember one starry night quite well. We had on board several Salvation Army people bound for Vancouver. As we rolled down a long grade on the hand cars towards the shaky bridge and rushing river, those lassies sang hymns, and sent up a prayer that they sincerely hoped would be heard. While here I met and talked to a dark lame man, whom I afterwards came to know as Bill Postill.

During the month I worked on the Bow River section I met a man called Alec McIntyre, who hailed from the Jim

River, in North Dakota. He, too, had been trying to farm there, but got dried out year after year. So he, like myself, was looking for a better country. Alec and I decided to take a day at Banff Springs, but while there got separated in some way, and when we again met he had news for me. Said he: "I met a man a while ago who come from a valley in B.C. where they grow good crops of wheat and have large herds of cattle, with a very good climate." He had forgotten the name of the valley, and the name of the station to get off at, but remembered it was about half-way between Banff and Vancouver. Starting west the next day, the conductor on the train told us that Craigellachie was half-way point, but he said it was only a siding. He advised us to go on to Sicamous, where a small steamboat connected with the train three times a week, bringing flour from somewhere south, and he figured there must be a settlement down that way. He advised us to stop off at Sicamous, where we did. The train pulled out, leaving us gaping at the mountains on the one side and the lake on the other. With the exception of a small shed of a stationhouse, that was all in sight.

"Well, boys, going around to the hotel?" a cheery voice said in our rear. Thus we made the acquaintance of Col. Forrester, of Chinese fame, from whom afterwards I heard many yarns of the Boxer Rebellion. Under the Colonel's guidance we found a snug little hotel nestling under the mountain, and on the way there he told us of the south. "Oh, you will have to wait here until the day after tomorrow," said he, "for the *Red Star* would not wait. She makes three trips a week with flour from the Enderby mill. There is a boat and fishing tackle. You might as well take it easy till she returns."

In our endeavor to fill in the time the following day we discovered that a gang had just started work on a wagon road along the west side of Mara Lake to contact Enderby by road with the railway. This was the road which I was destined afterwards to travel many times with Her Majesty's mails—for Good Queen Victoria was then our Sovereign—and where I had many varied experiences.

Right on schedule Captain Cumming and the *Red Star* made their appearance, and the day following we climbed on

deck, navigating the shallow waters of the Spallumcheen River, arriving at Enderby in time for supper. The first men we met on arrival here were Bob and Tom Lambly, who then owned the Enderby Hotel, and who were both on the verandah to welcome the cheechakos from the East. Supper over, we decided to "hoof it" the nine miles to Lansdowne, then the metropolis of the valley, and got there in time to make the acquaintance of "Mine Host Wallace."

Now the Lansdowne of that day should really have a descriptive chapter to itself, but in this short memoir I must only relate a few of the features which struck me most favorably. George Wallace, I was informed, was an American who originally, with his wife, had ridden on horseback from California, heading in the first place for Rock Creek gold diggings; then coming on north to settle eventually near the crossroads, where the village of Lansdowne was built, and which was named after the then Governor-General.

George Wallace was a typical Westerner, who was not afraid to have "many irons" in the fire at one time. In addition to his farming operations he owned and ran the hotel, was postmaster, blacksmith, J.P. and constable, and was generally considered to be mayor and corporation also. In addition to the above, the village boasted a general store run by Wood & Rabbitt; the carpenter shop of Pringle & Hamill, and a doctor named Offerhaus.

Obtaining a bedroom over the bar room, we were scarcely into bed before George Wallace came to enquire if we could go to work in the morning. Jack O'Shea was starting up his threshing machine at Harry Swanson's and was short-handed. Telling him we were tired, but would wander down there after breakfast, we prepared to go to sleep, but soon found out that we had calculated without our host, for that bar room was occupied by the noisiest bunch of rustics who could possibly get together anywhere. The noise below, however, might have been endured for George's liquor was gradually getting the best of them, but we soon found out that we had company upstairs also, and lots of them. This was too much for one night so grabbing our blankets we made for the hayloft over the horse stable behind, and were soon out of our troubles. A

good breakfast made us feel fit, so we headed for the Swanson ranch.

Coming out of the bush onto Round Prairie we could see the threshing machine at work, so we made a beeline across the Schubert ranch for it. Arriving at the fence between the two ranches we were amazed to see a Chinaman running towards us and a man after him. The latter proved to be Swanson, who apparently was running the Chinaman off the place. The Chinaman would turn and shake his fist at Swanson, saying, "Me savvy you, Swanson; me heap savvy you a long time"; and Swanson, stopping his fit of laughter, would make another run for him, and so they kept going. It appeared that he was Swanson's cook, but owing to the crew being short-handed, Swanson had ordered him onto the straw stack until our arrival. This was too much for the Chinaman, who nearly got buried. In those days the Chinamen were only employed as cooks and laundrymen.

Jack O'Shea and Amos Hill were having trouble with their mill. It was new, the sieves would not clean the grain and two or three days were lost getting it going. Of course, the new mill was the talk of the valley, and Webb Wright had been saying things derogatory; consequently when O'Shea and Wright met at the Lansdowne hotel one night there was trouble.

"Now we cannot have any fighting in here," said Wallace, J.P., and mounted a bench outside and held aloft the lamp to give them a chance. The scrap was short and decisive. O'Shea was long in the reach and Webb had a bushy beard, which proved his undoing, and he took it all back on demand, and stood the drinks.

While working for O'Shea, Alec McIntyre and I got acquainted with most of the farmers of the Spallumcheen Valley. We were three and a half days at the Lumby ranch, and put through forty tons a day. On Knob Hill we had a fine time at George Paton's melon patch, and there inspected the *first commercial orchard* planted in the valley. The trees were then quite young, and I never learned how they did afterwards. Mrs. McCraney in Pleasant Valley outdid herself cooking for the boys; so much so that the work went very slowly after dinner. She had been a cook on the west end of the C.P.R. during con-

struction and took pride in showing us what she could do.

I stayed with Donald Graham that winter, 1887-88. On Christmas Day we had some fine deer shooting, quite near the buildings. We got five between us out of quite a large herd.

It was there, too, that I first met Father Pat, who held a service at the Pleasant Valley school on Sunday, and the following day I was quite amused when he showed me how to ride a bucking horse and then rode away on it. In after years Father Pat (Rev. Henry Irwin) and I got to be good friends, when we were both making Fairview our headquarters. (Fairview is a ghost town now.) Many a time he put himself out to do me a good turn.

In February, 1888, spring arrived, and I was so well pleased with the mild winter and general conditions I had met, that I decided to go back to the Yorkton district, sell out my holdings there, and make the Okanagan my future home. This I did, starting in February and getting back just as harvest was beginning. Alf. Cole returned with me as far as Sicamous. Here I got off, and he went on through to the coast, taking with him my trunk, which I never saw again. Donald Matheson was short-handed up in Salmon River valley so I went to help him stack his grain and here for the second time I met "Big Bill" Richardson. Bill had a team of grey horses, fat and trim, which took most of his attention. He was hauling sheaves with a high wagon and a short wagon rack, whereas the low truck of Mateson's, which I was using, had a long flat rack and held a big load. Bill was tall and strong, and completed an outfit ideal for topping off the stacks. But, alas, here he struck, and it was up to me to do the topping off, or Bill would have gone home with his little beauties and left us to finish the job. Donald Matheson was just the kind of man I would not see stuck if I could help it. Rather quiet and easy going, with a kind heart and a good word for all, he was trustworthy and respected by all his neighbours. Long may his name be remembered.

My old travelling companion, Alec McIntyre, had brought his wife from Dakota and was living in a log house on the back road, east of where the town of Armstrong now stands. He and I took several contracts that winter, clearing and

stumping land for Bob Mills, Jake Laws and Mose Lever which has since become so valuable for growing celery. It was then a swamp covered with willow brush. The future site of the town of Armstrong was known as "The Island". This was surrounded by the swamp. The only building on "The Island" at that time was an old log corral.

We were busy, too, that winter feeding cattle for Hon. George Forbes Vernon, of the Coldstream Ranch. He had 400 head on Bill Meighan's place, Pleasant Valley. For three weeks in January the mercury registered very steadily around thirty degrees below zero. It was cold work getting up at 5:30 a.m. to kick up the weak ones out of the snow and prevent them freezing. Bill Meighan, an old Cariboo freighter, was busy hauling wheat to the Enderby mill, then owned by a young Englishman named Rashleigh. Bill had a long sleigh, made locally, which had to be properly balanced. It was great to see Bill start up his string of six horses when the long sleigh was frozen down those frosty mornings. He was another "Long Bill", who always had a yarn to spin, and I well remember how he would string his long legs in front of you as you tried to get away before he had finished.

With the spring of 1889 came the great Siwash Creek mining excitement, west from Vernon on the west side of Okanagan Lake. The Discovery claim had been located and worked the year before the valley got the fever. Centreville in Priest's Valley was being quickly deserted. One day a chap borrowed my broncho to go up "The Creek" and I, jokingly, said to him as he rode off, "Stake me a claim." Now, although I had promised myself never to be led by a gold craze, I found myself the owner of a claim, recorded with Govt. Agent Dewdney at Vernon, not far above the Discovery claim, and the creek staked off from the Indian Reserve far up into the hills. The four "Discovery" men were making \$20 a day per man and it was tempting. I joined a company holding eight claims. We had among us some old miners from the Cariboo and the Couer d'Alene diggings, who installed flumes, water wheel and China pump. Bill Meighan, of Pleasant Valley, who was busy freighting into the new town of Vernon at the time, held an interest. Price Ellison also was interested, and

packed in our supplies once a week. We dug to bedrock and found gold, but not in sufficient quantities to make our fortunes. The pay dirt finally petered out in the fall and that was the finish.

When we closed down Price Ellison asked me what I had in view for the winter. He took me to his home place, where I commenced drilling fall wheat. Later on he offered me the job of driving the mail stage from Vernon to Sicamous and return; also Vernon to Mission. (There was then no Kelowna.) I took over from Ollie Vale on January 1, 1891. This new job found me driving a three-seated democrat behind four horses, with a schedule that started north from Vernon every Monday morning, covering the 51 miles by way of Otter Lake to Sicamous, changing horses at Enderby. Tuesdays I returned to Vernon, where I changed horses again, and drove the 35 miles to Okanagan Mission (not the present Okanagan Mission) on the Wednesday. Returned to Vernon on Thursday, north to Enderby and Sicamous on Friday, then back to Vernon Saturday, where I laid over Sunday.

This made a drive of about 280 miles a week, sometimes over roads so bad that it taxed the strength and courage of the best horses, tugging long hours through mud and slush in the winter months; in the summer there was the heat and dust. Passengers were charged ten cents per mile, and extra for excess baggage. Express ranged from 25 cents up.

About this time Captain Shorts was building a steamboat on Okanagan Lake. One of Price Ellison's instructions was to assist this 'venture of Captain Shorts' by picking him up and giving him a free ride, as the Captain had considerable running around to do. This order I tried to carry out, but on one occasion, when he was waiting for me on the side of the road around eight o'clock at night in the dark and the mud, with a bundle of old iron he had gathered in the Spallumcheen Valley, I was forced to refuse to take on this load of iron. The four horses were loaded to the limit and it was two o'clock in the morning before I finally arrived with the mail at the Vernon P.O., where L. Girouard was postmaster. This P.O. was a bare room with desk, table or shelf. Instead of letter boxes, Girouard had a system of using the cracks between the floor

boards to hold the letters and papers. When a citizen called for his mail, he was asked to go and pick it out for himself from the crack in the floor that was assigned to him.

Passenger traffic was heavy at times. During the construction of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway, there was plenty of trouble on the road along Mara Lake. This section was being continually blown up, as the railway right-of-way was located where the government had built the wagon road. When the road was blocked by a big slide horses, mail, express and passengers had to be conveyed over a spur of the mountain, and the railway contractors supplied a democrat without springs (buckboard) on the opposite side of the slide, which did duty as far as Sicamous. When winter came and I could use sleighs it was better going, for then I could drive on the ice.

One morning I had occasion to leave Vernon very early on the trip north, in order to catch the boat at Enderby, and was worrying because I had neglected to notify Mr. O'Keefe, who was postmaster at Okanagan (O'Keefe's Ranch). I expected to have to pull him out of bed to get the mail ready for me, but when I rattled down the hill and drew up in front of his house, where the postoffice was located, at the unearthly hour of four o'clock, there stood Cornie O'Keefe at the door picking his teeth. "You are a little early this morning, aren't you?" was his only comment.

During the summer months, when the *Red Star II* was plying between Enderby and Sicamous with flour one way and merchandise on return trip, I would leave my outfit at Enderby and board the steamboat with the mail and express, and any passengers there might be. This was the cause of a great deal of friction between Captain Cumming and me. He was an Irishman with a cranky disposition, who had formerly navigated the Lachine rapids in Eastern Canada. Captain Cumming resented any delay caused by my having to transfer mail and express from the station at Sicamous to the boat landing after the eastbound train arrived from Vancouver at 8 a.m. Mr. Appleby, the station agent, had the contract to deliver the mail to the postoffice, where letters and papers were sorted. Then I took them to the steamboat as soon as they

were made ready by Mr. Jordan, the postmaster. There were delays, especially when the train was late. Captain Cumming threatened to pull out and leave me on several occasions. Finally one morning he did so, just as I arrived at the landing with the first sack of letters and was about to return for the parcels and express. It was 8:30 when the *Red Star* snorted out into the river, leaving Her Majesty's mail and mail carrier stranded on the wharf, with the sympathetic citizens of Sica-mous, headed by Col. Forrester, wanting to know what I was going to do about it. I told the Colonel I was going to get the mail through and that I wanted to borrow his boat and hire a man to help me row to Shannon's, the half-way house at the upper end of Mara Lake.

With the mail and express aboard the boat, we bucked a strong wind that kept us hugging the shore all the way up the lake to Dave Shannon's. After hearing my story, Dave said I could lock the mail in his bedroom, where it would be safe. The boatman returned with Col. Forrester's boat and Dave rowed me across the river, where I procured a saddle horse and rode on to Enderby. Getting my outfit, I started back to Shannon's, loaded up my mail and express and drove back to Enderby, arriving just as the *Red Star* was puffing up to the Landing.

Oliver Harvey was postmaster and storekeeper and a good friend of mine. Some of the boys around the villages wanted me to "put a head on" Captain Cumming for the scurvy trick he had played on me. However, I figured my job was to get the mail through, so after supper I hitched up again and drove through to Vernon. There I told Price Ellison of the way things had gone, which did not seem to trouble him very much, as he intimated that we would have to settle our own differences.

The following Monday, when I arrived in Enderby, Captain Cumming was very grumpy and made certain remarks which I very much resented, so I told him to shut up or I would dump him in the lake. He then immediately went to the office of Mr. Gibbs, who was manager of the milling company and a J.P. Because of the threat I had made Captain Cumming laid a complaint against me and wanted me bound over to keep the peace. I went before the magistrate and told my side of the

story, admitting that I had threatened the Captain and was only sorry that I had not carried it out; that I was responsible for Her Majesty's mail and wished to fulfill my obligation as best I could. I then wanted to know what support to expect from the Enderby Milling Co., owners of the *Red Star*. Without any hesitation, Mr. Gibbs told me that I was to have the use of the steamboat, and for both of us to get out of his office and not bother him again. Although I travelled many more trips on the *Red Star*, Captain Cumming never spoke to me again.

It was a long pull up the four-mile hill out of Vernon south to the top of the Commonage hill, and from the top it was hard on the brakes until the shore of Long Lake was reached near Rattlesnake Point. In winter we took to the ice, crossing that long strip of sand and gravel known then as "The Railroad", and on over Wood Lake and through Tom Wood's meadows to the Postill Ranch.

On one trip in 1891 Father Pandosy was a passenger. I had a bad cold at the time and was coughing in such a manner it worried the good Father. "When we arrive in Vernon I shall get you something for that cough," he remarked more than once. I was very busy with the mail and parcels on reaching Vernon and had forgotten his promise. Not so Father Pandosy. He hunted me up, handing me a goose quill that was filled with camphor, together with a good chunk of that commodity to have for refills.

"You keep that in your mouth and breathe the quill, and you will soon be better," he said. Then he told me of his treating an Indian woman. This woman was threatened with tuberculosis, having a dreadful cough. Father Pandosy had given her a goose quill and a generous supply of camphor on which to draw, with instructions how to use it. This Indian woman, thinking that if a small dose would relieve her cough, a large one would sure be "heap big better." So she chewed the whole piece down at once, with the result that she became violently ill and delirious to such an extent that the Father thought she would never recover. However, she did, and as Father Pandosy pointed out at the time, it was not long until she presented her husband with twins!

In the fall of 1890 I hauled a huge load of deer skins from

the head of Okanagan Lake to Ducks Station on the C.P.R. for Price Ellison. Deer at that time were so plentiful that they were being shot on the range to save the grass. On my way back I met Leon Lequime of Round Lake (west of Armstrong) riding a relay of horses to Kamloops for a doctor. His brother Gaston had been badly injured at the Boucherie place that day. He had been cutting out cattle on the flats near the present Rutland cannery when a long-horned steer charged at old man Boucherie, who was on foot. Gaston jumped his horse into the steer thinking to shoulder the "critter" off. The impact of horse and steer was so hard and sudden the jar dislocated some of the vertebrae of the rider's spine, causing his death within a few hours, long before his brother was half-way to Kamloops.

Bernard Lequime was the postmaster at Okanagan Mission at this time. Once a week it was my good fortune to occupy one of the beds that his mother was so proud of at their stopping place. Mrs. Lequime made the mattress herself out of wool, and they were perhaps the most comfortable appointments around the place. Mails were re-sorted at the Mission P.O. Those for the south were carried by Joseph Brent on pack-horse or on snowshoes, according to the season of the year.

I drove stage for Price Ellison for a year and a half and then decided to settle on the land again. About that time, 1891, the Smithson Estate (where the Benvoulin school now is) was subdivided and sold at auction by the executor, Mr. Cochrane, of Vernon. Mr. Ellison and Mr. Cameron arranged to attend the sale, which took place on the property. I was anxious to get hold of some good farm land, so suggested that Mr. Ellison should bid for me, as it was impossible for me to get down the valley that day. He obtained Lots 17 and 18, right opposite the school. He got the first lot for \$36 an acre, but the second lot was run up to \$75 by some of the neighbours around, who did not know Price Ellison was bidding for me. I farmed there for several years, during the time that G. G. Mackay was interesting Lord Aberdeen in Okanagan lands. At that time a large quantity of small fruits and berries was being planted in this section with the understanding that we

would have a jam factory. Later this factory was built at Vernon, where there were no small fruits to jam, while we who had the fruit were left without a means of processing it or a proper method of transportation to the factory, so the scheme ended in a "fizzle."

I was married on September 28, 1893, to Sarah Louise Manery, from Gray County, Ontario. Times were bad and we had no markets for our produce. There was practically no money in the valley, while over in the mining country around Slocan Lake things were booming. What could we do to get our crops on that market? A meeting was called at the Benvoulin schoolhouse by Alf. Postill to discuss this pressing problem. That day the first co-operative association in the valley was formed. A collection was taken up, amounting to \$100, to defray the expenses of four delegates to visit Sandon and arrange for a market if possible. The delegates chosen were Howard Dell, Mark Howard, John Casorso and myself.

Armed with \$40 each and authority to do business, we travelled to Sandon via Revelstoke and the Arrow Lakes by train and steamboat. Arriving at Sandon, we rented a ten-by-twelve-foot log cabin at \$10 a month and stored our effects while we looked around, deciding we would locate a site for a warehouse. The C.P.R. was building into Sandon at that time and Superintendent Marpole's special was on the track. Introducing myself to Mr. Marpole, I told him we were representing a group of farmers in the Okanagan Valley who were anxious to get the market in the Slocan section for their produce. Also that we wanted a warehouse on the C.P.R. tracks, as that was our only way of shipping from Kelowna. Mr. Marpole told me to see him again before he pulled out, being very busy at the time deciding upon a station site. Later I interviewed him again and was asked just what we wanted, and if we had selected a place suitable for our requirements. Pointing out a location that would suit our purpose, we were told that it had been chosen for the station buildings. Had we a second choice? We had—it was across a ravine. This was granted us and proved very satisfactory. The railway siding lay in front of the site and the road to the mines lay on the other side. There we dug a cellar 20x60 feet, trading vege-

tables and horsefeed for lumber. We erected a feed house over the cellar and started business.

I was left in charge at Sandon, while E. R. Bailey, father of Kelowna's present postmaster, acted as secretary, and attended to the shipping of fruit, vegetables, hay and oats at the Kelowna end. I remained in charge at Sandon for the co-operative association, known as the Kelowna Shippers' Union, until the summer of 1894, living in a cabin, part office, part bunkhouse, which I had erected beside the warehouse.

My wife being in poor health, I decided to return to Kelowna. My wife passed away in 1896, leaving me with a daughter, Ethel, now of Sacramento, California. The following year, 1897, I sold my holdings to Bert Crichton (still living at the present Okanagan Mission) and moved to Penticton, where I operated a freight outfit from that place to Greenwood in the boundary country. All freight came to Penticton on the C.P.R. steamboat *Aberdeen*, under Captain Estabrooks, at that time, and had to be hauled by teams of horses and wagons to the mines in the Boundary country, via Okanagan Falls, Camp McKinney (now another ghost town) and Rock Creek. Greenwood was then in the heyday of its existence, with Robert Wood, one of the prominent business men of that town, and his activities in evidence everywhere. A freighter received two-and-a-half cents a pound for his load—it was a one-way haul.

After two seasons with the freight wagons I applied for the mail contract between Penticton and Oroville, Washington. Jones and Gourlay, of Fairview, had held this contract, but because my tender was \$25 lower, and I had as sureties such men as Price Ellison and Tom Ellis, I was awarded the contract. Jones and Gourlay continued their stage line for about a year between Fairview and Penticton and were hard opposition. They had a barn at the top end of Myers Flat, where they changed horses, while I drove my four-horse team right through. Because I had to wait around for mail and express in the mornings at Penticton, my opposition was able to get away much earlier with their passengers, but I usually caught up with them, taking their dust until we reached their half-way barn and drew in to change horses. Then I would whip up

and get the road and hold it the rest of the way to Fairview, after many a race across Myers Flat, to land my passengers and mail into the then booming camp of Fairview ahead of my opposition, much to their chagrin. From Fairview to the border town of Oroville I drove a two-horse and democrat outfit, calling at the Canadian Customs at Osoyoos and again at the American Customs one mile out of Oroville.

I held this mail contract four years. In 1900 and 1901 I also had a mail contract between Fairview and Camp McKinney. I moved to Fairview in 1899 and made that place my headquarters. At this time I was married again, August 23, 1899, to Mary Ann Manery in Vernon. Of this marriage were two children: Robert, now living in Oliver, and Gladys, now living in Kelowna. I lived at Fairview till 1902, after which I returned to Kelowna, the mining boom being over.

Next I went into partnership with Frank Conkling, my brother-in-law, and we bought 1760 acres N. and S. of Scotty Creek in the Ellison district. Frank had thirty-odd head of cattle on his Benvoulin place and I brought 35 head of horses, harness and running gear up from Fairview, and that was our start. The Scotty Creek property, known as the Christian range, had been cut up into twenty and forty-acre lots by the G. G. MacKay Estate, and was the last of their holdings in the valley to be disposed of. For one lot of forty acres we had to pay \$5 an acre and for the balance \$3.50. We operated this property as a cattle ranch and also grew a quantity of grain, had a good garden and Frank planted a small orchard. We sold out in 1907 to the Ideal Land Co.

Kelowna real estate was booming at that time, so I bought a five-acre block on Pendozi Street and built a house. Later I bought a forty-acre block of timbered land just across the K.L.O. bridge over Mission Creek. This I had cleared and, selling out the Pendozi Street property, moved onto the forty acres, after building a house, which became my home from then on.

Here I am now able to enjoy surfaced roads, telephone and electric light, having decided that I have done enough "pioneering" in the Western Country for one man in the last fifty years. (Robert S. Hall died September 25, 1935.)

The Craster Family

Guy P. Bagnall

The history of British Columbia is of comparatively recent origin, and that of Okanagan even more so. The historic milestones are few in number and spaced not far apart. Prior to the Indian a great gap in knowledge about the people who lived here still confronts us, but the gap is being slowly closed. The Indian is a milestone, but the Indian has no written history. Legend there is in abundance, but of authentic and dated record there is none.

Next comes the advent of the Fur Brigade with its pack trains, strategic forts and the extensive use of inland waterways. Then come the white settlers, many of whom are well remembered by those who write these stories. With them came an evolution of occupation: stock raising on a large scale, followed by mixed farming and fruit culture, with irrigation.

Among early settlers, though not among the first, came Edmund S. Craster, who was born in Alnwick, Northumberland, England. At the age of sixteen he migrated to the United States of America and settled in Idaho. In 1904 he returned to England and married Alice O. Wilson. In May of that year they left Liverpool for Canada. Arriving in British Columbia in 1905, the Crasters bought a team and buggy and drove from Ashcroft to the Chilcotin country.

Mrs. Craster recalls the breath-taking scenery, the colourful Indians, the famous stage-coaches drawn by magnificent horses, covered wagons drawn by oxen, and the back-aching roads of those early times; but every moment was filled with beauty and happiness.

Adventures began immediately. "Our first memory," she said, "is of a typical British Columbia scene. We were driving along the banks of the Chilcotin River and thousands of salmon were attempting to jump the rapids to their spawning grounds. It was a never-to-be-forgotten picture of flashing silver, golden sunshine, angry boiling water, and the excited and vociferous

activity of the Indians, male, female and papooses, insuring their winter supply of fish. The whole activities were taking place very deep in the earth, and our climb down the gorge was rewarded with sixty salmon, later enjoyed after smoking and salting. I wanted to stay and get something in paints to have a permanent record of that scene, but time would not permit. We continued our journey and, unfortunately, our buggy wheel heated when crossing the Fraser bridge. We slept on the buggy seat that night with horse blankets for covers. It was two below zero.



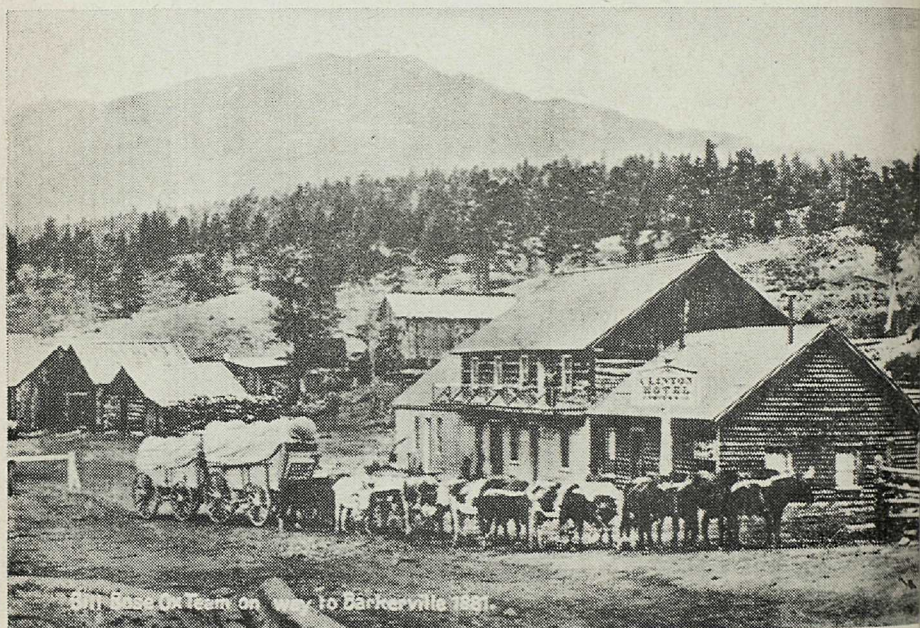
B.C. Express, Ashcroft to Cariboo, 1889

"Coming down country we recrossed the Fraser on a raft near the Gang ranch. Here the river is narrow and a seething cauldron, but we made the crossing. In 1906 we drove from Chilcotin to the Okanagan Valley in the same buggy, and with the same faithful team of horses. Here we decided to settle and bought a farm."

Continuing her story, Mrs. Craster said that fruit growing was then in its infancy. "We planted an orchard, but later pulled out the trees, having discovered that if you paid your store bills you could not sell fruit to the storekeeper. Appar-

ently the custom was that only those who owed bills could trade in their fruit. This was long before co-operative marketing was adopted.

"Deciding against fruit farming, we considered raising horses, but finally settled on cows. We started our dairy farm with one cow. We searched the country far and wide, and eventually bought six pure-bred Jersey cows from Mrs. C. K. Stanton at Oroville, Washington. Later, I bought some cows from Mrs. Knudt Knutson of Kruger Mountain. Mrs. Ed. Lacey of Osoyoos was also a buyer of stock from Mrs. Knutson."



Ox team on way to Parkerville in boom days

After nearly fifty years' experience with Jersey cows, Mrs. Craster pays a tribute to the breed. They are (she says) active and agile, they can take full advantage of the infinite variety of titbits (roses included) that grow on the cared-for ranges. They seem to prefer this feed to bitten-over, dull, flat fields, although they, too, are necessary.

Mrs. Craster is now retired and lives in Vernon in a snug little home where she is surrounded by her numerous oil

paintings and mementos of earlier days on the ranch. Her paintings breathe the atmosphere of the out-of-doors. Each horse and each dog is affectionately remembered by name. An artist must be able to draw, and Mrs. Craster's pen-and-ink sketches, shown only to intimate friends, reveal grace of contour and line in work of a high order.

Edmund S. Craster, her husband, died in 1930. He was a man of many parts and devoted to his wife and family. Of their family of seven, four survive: James in Montreal, Charles in Victoria, Amy and Dick in Vernon. Thirty years ago a nephew, Jock Craster, visited the family in Vernon. Recently, he was knighted by the Queen for his many benefactions and public services. The late Miss Anna Townsend Wilson, R.N., a sister of Mrs. Craster, was for many years on the staff of the Vernon Jubilee Hospital.

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In *The Golden Land, The True Story of British Settlers in Canada* (Hodder & Stoughton, London, 1911), Arthur E. Copping has a chapter on "Fruit Growing in B.C." (pp.125-142) and the only reference to Okanagan is contained in a single sentence: "Kelowna pitied Kaslo; the glorious Kootenays seemed positively sorry for the Okanagan Valley" (p.138). Apparently, Mr. Copping did not visit Okanagan!!!

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Canada, with subtitle "A Study of Cool Continental Environments and their effect on British and French Settlement," by Griffith Taylor (Methuen & Co., Ltd., London, 1947), is a scholarly book which will amply repay close reading. In giving altitudes of railway stations between Hope and Crowsnest Pass, Dr. Taylor gives Princeton as 1120. This, of course, should be 2120. There are some interesting paragraphs on "The Origin of the River Terraces" (pp.184-5), with special reference to the Okanagan Valley. On page 184 are sketches illustrating various theories as to the origin of the terraces or benches. Dr. Taylor was in the Antarctic in 1910-11-12, and was "much struck by the "lateral moats" which bounded all the larger glaciers."

The Hitchcocks Of Vernon

Mabel Johnson

When Mrs. Bessie Hitchcock, of Vernon, and her husband, the late Henry Ernest Hitchcock, came to Canada from England in 1906, they brought with them a boundless enthusiasm—an unfailing sense of humour—a knowledge of how to please the “inner man” and a recipe for the hard, peppermint-flavoured candy—or should we say “sweets”?—so loved by Britishers, called “bullseyes.” They learned the process in England and Mrs. Hitchcock says they turned out tons of this one type of candy, for sale all over the Interior.

Born in the lovely county of Somerset, not far from Shakespeare’s land, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock came to the Okanagan first when this century was only six years old.

The couple settled first in Kelowna, where they opened a confectioner’s shop, that being their business. They specialized in such British mouth-watering delicacies as Genoa cake, Melton Mowbray pork pies and pastries. The Hitchcocks’ stay in Kelowna was brief, and after a short period in Vancouver, they came to Vernon, where they opened the city’s first confectioner’s shop and tea room in what is now the 3100 block Barnard Avenue.

There they would serve afternoon tea, English style, with plenty of “hot water for the pot.” They built up a clientele which drew all the Coldstream residents—then as British as their own countryside. The Hitchcocks’ ice cream attracted a large number of customers, and Mrs. Hitchcock now likes to recall that many a young man would walk or ride horseback for miles on Saturday nights just to eat a dish of the Hitchcocks’ ice cream. Their premises were also a weekend rendezvous for district farmers, mainly Old Country boys. In those days, too, the Vernon City Band would give concerts in a bandstand on Barnard and 32nd Street, where the Hudson’s Bay store now stands, when the Hitchcocks would supply huge quantities of ice cream to the bandsmen and audience.

"Those were the days," said 86-year-old Mrs. Hitchcock. From the manner in which she tells of life in the city's early days, perhaps those were indeed "the days."

Mrs. Hitchcock recalls the grand opening of the Hudson's Bay Company's new Vernon store back in 1912, when she and her husband catered on the two opening days for the continuous stream of visitors who came from far and near to see the magnificent display of merchandise. On the evening of the second day H. T. Lockyer, company manager for the province, presided at a staff dinner, for which the Hitchcocks did the catering.

In 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock sold their business to Walter Rolston, of Vernon, and went to Kedleston, where they operated a mixed farm. Kedleston is only five miles from Vernon postoffice, but it was, and still is, an intensely rural, but beautiful area, and from some elevations three lakes can be seen: Swan, Kalamalka and Okanagan lakes. As is usual in country districts, the school house was the centre of community life.

Mr. Hitchcock soon became a leader in the settlement. He organized church services, Christmas entertainments for the children and dances. The late Rt. Rev. A. J. Doull, first Anglican Bishop of Kootenay Diocese, conducted Church of England worship in Kedleston school house.

The 25 families who lived in Kedleston at that time included Mrs. William Morley, now of Vernon, and her late husband; also Archie McGregor, truly a "character", according to Mrs. Hitchcock, who likes to recall his penchant for a certain Stetson hat, which he wore, winter and summer, on any and all occasions.

Mr. Hitchcock was the *Vernon News* correspondent for Kedleston for 35 years, and although he collected and "wrote up" the day-to-day happenings which now are a record of the life and times of the community, it was always Mrs. Hitchcock to whom the cheques were made out, she now recalls.

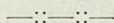
But it is to the confectionery business and tea room that Mrs. Hitchcock pins her recollections. She remembers a convention when she and her husband were asked to cater for

300 people in the old Vernon Skating Rink, since destroyed by fire. However, only 210 actually "sat down", but, nothing daunted, the left-over stuffed and roasted chickens prepared for the feast were sold for fifty cents each. Cover charge for the banquet was \$1.25. Other organizations were catered to by the energetic Hitchcocks, who brought to the new land their skill in the culinary arts.

Mrs. Hitchcock still has her sense of humor and her Old Country accent. She has but one relative in the world—a blind sister-in-law in England.

She recalled for the purpose of this story how, even after they moved to Kedleston, they still made the "bullseyes" so loved by the homesick Englishmen, who would meditate on the old world and the advantages of the new—as they thoughtfully savoured the British "sweets", the striped and flavourful bullseyes.

Mrs. Hitchcock likes to think she has many good friends who remember her and her husband who died in 1954; of their early days in Vernon and Kedleston, and of their contribution to the young communities — "when we were very young."



Paul Kane's paintings were a wonder to the Indians. They thought the Great Spirit helped him to make them, and they would put their hands over their faces and look at them through their fingers, which was the way they always looked at those whom the Great Spirit had taken to the Happy Hunting Ground. They thought he must be a great medicine-man to make such pictures, and he was very glad that they had that idea, for it meant that his sketches would be safe among them. — E. L. Marsh in *Where the Buffalo Roamed* (Toronto, 1908), p.123.

Alphonse Deschamps Came To Vernon In 1891

Mabel Johnson

When 83-year-old Alphonse Deschamps, a resident of Lumby, Vernon and Oyama for the past 64 years, was asked as to what he attributed his longevity and good health, he answered, guardedly: "Well, it wasn't through sitting around!"

Mr. Deschamps was born 60 miles west of Montreal in a French-speaking community. His father, the late John B. Deschamps, came to the Okanagan and to Lumby ahead of his family in the year 1887, working first at the old Victoria Hotel in Vernon.

In those days ranch "hands" were paid \$25 a month. They worked from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. and "no questions asked or answered." This salary was amongst the first money that the young Alphonse earned in the Okanagan, where he was to spend the remainder of his days. At hay making time, Alphonse worked for Pete Bessette at Lumby, and there wages were a little higher: \$1.50 a day.

He later went to Harris Creek, trading a horse and saddle for a 160-acre preemption. He built a shack with mud roof and floor and farmed there for a time, after which his father offered to do a "trade." Said Deschamps Senior: "I'll take over your mortgage and 160 acres and you can have all I've got." Alphonse then went to farm on his father's acres.

In the year 1897, about the time that Queen Victoria was celebrating her Diamond Jubilee, Alphonse was married to Mrs. Ethie Bloom, of Lumby, the mother of Charlie Bloom. The ceremony took place in the Coldstream Hotel, Vernon. Three other couples said "I do" at the same time, but Mr. Deschamps does not now recall who they were. "Wish I had a picture though," he said.

To have 120 tons of hay in his barn gave Alphonse a good feeling a few summers later. A far-seeing bank manager

in Vernon advised him to expand his operations and raise cattle, offering to finance the venture. This he did. Alphonse got some calves, "raised" them, and re-sold them at \$40 each. He recalls that the late Mr. Tronson bought 20 of them. In three years the bank manager was repaid, and Mr. Deschamps now likes to recall that he owed no man anything.

By this time, Mrs. Deschamps was making 200 to 300 pounds of butter a week. No help was to be found. Not strong, she soon became ill, so Alphonse sold the farm to Paul Trudel and moved to Vernon, where he earned a living by driving a taxi. He had two children, Clifford, and a daughter, now Mrs. A. Turner, of Penticton. Clifford took up wireless and telegraphy.

But the family felt the town was not for them and decided to go back to the land. They bought John Irvine's 22-acre farm in Oyama, of which 12 acres was in fruit and 10 in pasture. The first Mrs. Deschamps died in 1933. However, Alphonse and his family carried on, and soon Alphonse had bought the Oyama store for his son, Clifford. This proved a great success, with an annual turnover of \$50,000 a year. Things began to look up; crops were good and prices fair for fruit.

While in Oyama, Mr. Deschamps remarried, this time to Mrs. Emma Getty. In 1946 they sold the orchard and came to Vernon, where they now live a life of quiet retirement in a comfortable house with chestnut trees on the boulevard.

Dollars don't grow on trees, Mr. Deschamps remarked recently. He likes to philosophize and believes that today's young people could learn many lessons from the pioneer ways and down to earth living of their forebears. His advice to anyone starting life is not to be afraid of work, and "don't sit around."

Mr. Deschamps enjoys good health, and on his 83rd birthday, May 27, 1955, took another driving test. He is proud of his record. He loves the valley. He enjoys looking backward and regrets nothing.

Henry Torrent

MABEL JOHNSON

Henry Torrent, well-known North Okanagan lumberman, is now enjoying retirement in the Kalavista subdivision at Kalamalka Lake, finding time to do all the things for which he had no opportunity during his busy life.

Mr. Torrent is a native of Switzerland, that lovely, prosperous little country. He has inherited the industrious qualities of his forebears. When Mr. Torrent set sail for Canada at the age of 19, in 1906, he could not speak one word of English. He was an accomplished linguist, speaking German, Italian and French (there is no official Swiss language), but English was a foreign tongue. It is indicative of his tenacity of character that he obtained a book of fundamental English on the boat and spent most of his time during the passage mastering the essentials, which would be "open sesame" to a new life in a new country.

He stayed in Ontario for a short time, but came to the North Okanagan in 1907, when he obtained employment with the A. R. Rogers Lumber Company in Enderby. Mr. Torrent said this was one of the biggest sawmill companies in the Interior at that time. He recalls the "log drives" from Sugar Lake on the lovely Shuswap, and how they "boomed" at the river's mouth.

Once the logs had reached the lake they were placed in a sack boom, which was then closed, and sent on its way across the lake. A team was used to give the boom a circular movement, which carried it away from the shoreline; the wind then propelled the boom across the lake to its destination on the far side. It was an economical method, as no mechanical means were used for propulsion, but there was delay at times

waiting for a favourable breeze.¹

Mr. Torrent went to Mabel Lake during 1907 and then to Lumby, where he worked with Louis Christien and Victor Muller, pioneers of the logging industry. He then took up a pre-emption, three years later going to Enderby and Mabel Lake.

Into the life of Henry Torrent are woven colourful contacts with other pioneers, all of which combine to make the warp and woof of his generation. Some of his early associates were in the Enderby-Hupel-Mabel Lake area. When the passenger and freight stage serving that trinity of communities ceased operation on February 28, 1953, it ended a public service of almost 50 years' duration, in which Mr. Torrent played a large part.

It is necessary to look back to the year 1913, when Mike Hupel,² the first settler in the Hupel district and for whom the post office was named, sold his ranch, stage and post office to James Baird, now Sir James Baird, Bart., of England, and a Mr. Monteith. The latter only stayed in the valley, however, for a few months. Mr. Baird operated the ranch and business until war broke out in 1914, when he left for England. Then Henry Torrent and a Fred Kemp operated the business for short periods until it was taken over by John Dale.

Jim Baird, now Sir James, and Lady Baird, stayed in the Okanagan a year or so and, on their return to England, sold out to Major Taylor, who with a Captain Symonds took pos-

1. In a letter accompanying the above article Guy P. Bagnall (Vernon, 17 August, 1955) writes: "I think the idea of sailing their booms across the lake under their own power (or, more correctly, without mechanical aid) may stand alone in the province. Can you picture a team rotating these booms from shore and then trusting the wind to carry them across the lake?"

"I think the idea must have originated in the mind of an Indian of whom many were employed at the mill. They did many things in circles (as the natives in Africa do, even to building their houses). One has only to think back to early times when attacks were made on covered wagons: the Indians whooped around in an ever-narrowing circle—for the kill. Anyhow, the idea worked."

2. Hupel is 20 miles east of Enderby; named after Herman (Mike) Hupel, an American of German descent who settled here in the 1890's, and was first postmaster, September 1, 1910. Cross-eyed, but with a genial smile, Mike was a good neighbor and well liked. Postoffice closed December 31, 1947.—See: OHS.6(1935) p. 145; and A. G. Harvey in OHS.12(1948) p.206.

session of the business and property in 1920.

In 1922, Sir James, then a widower, again purchased Hupel, this time in partnership with William Petch, a British automobile manufacturer, and Dave Todd, a "gentleman-of-leisure." A year or so later, "Bill" Petch was in sole possession. He soon married, but his wife did not care for Hupel, and the outcome of these changes was that the Hupel post office and stage passed to Henry Torrent.

A few years later the Hupel post office went to a Mrs. Bell, postmistress for 15 years, and the stage was successfully operated by Mr. Torrent. In this way, he got to know every man, woman and child on the route—and they became friendly with the quiet, but genial and friendly man who brought the mail and numerous bundles and packages, and sometimes passengers, to that scenic part of the Okanagan.

Along about 1929, Henry Torrent pulled up stakes and went to Clearwater, where he cut poles, and five years later started a tie camp. In 1936 he opened a pole yard in Lumby and another at Irish Creek. At this time he launched into business in a big way. Soon ties and poles were shipped from his own spur in Lumby all over North America, the major portion going to the United States. He operated simply under the name of "Henry Torrent, Lumby."

To the knowledgeable, that name indicated a flourishing business with top quality products.

Mr. Torrent retired in 1951. He then bought 15 acres at Kalamalka Lake, near Vernon, where he now resides in happy retirement with Mrs. Torrent.

Mr. Torrent has made a noteworthy contribution to the economy in the northern end of the Okanagan Valley. He not only worked long and hard himself, but was in the position of hiring labor to fell and cut the timber which is the best for poles and ties from the Lumby district.

They've seen the ups and downs of life, as is inevitable, but stayed right on. Mr. and Mrs. Torrent will keep "right on to the end of the road."

Books And Papers Mentioning Okanagan

With the exception of the Fortune papers, which are still in typescript form, our references to Okanagan have been found mainly in pamphlets, reports and newspapers.

Records of Pioneer A. L. Fortune. O.H.S. members who attended the annual meeting in Vernon last May and visited the Vernon museum housed in the Junior High school, were privileged to see the original manuscripts of the Alexander Leslie Fortune diaries. These have all been typed and are at present on loan to our Society. In all, there are 2800 lines (foolscap), making about 35,000 words. There are seven sections, dealing with personal history; first, second and third overland expeditions to Edmonton; "Records," 1903; Lillooet to Spallumcheen; Edmonton to Bella Coola. Arrangements for publication of the Records will be made by the City of Vernon Board of Museum & Archives, of which George Melvin is chairman, and Guy P. Bagnall secretary-treasurer.

Dictionary of the Chinook Jargon, or Indian Trade Language of the North Pacific Coast, published by T. N. Hibben & Co., Victoria, B.C., 1899. This pamphlet of 36 pages is also "on loan" through the kindness of L. L. Kerry, of Kelowna.

The sub-title indicates the true origin of Chinook. Robie L. Reid had an article on "The Chinook Jargon and British Columbia" in *The British Columbia Historical Quarterly* (hereafter BCHQ) for January, 1942 (vol.6,No.1); and F. W. Howay had a long article on "The Origin of the Chinook Jargon" in BCHQ, vol. 6, No. 4 (October, 1942). In her article on "The Chinook Jargon" in OHS.10 (1943), pp.125-129, Dorothy Hewlett Gellatly makes reference to Dr. Reid's article.

Dr. Reid notes that, with the coming of new settlers Chinook gradually dropped into disuse, "until now no one remembers it except the few old pioneers." He gives another reason. "The younger Indians were growing up in a country in which English was being spoken all around them. They began to feel that the speaking of Chinook, either to them or by them, was a

badge of inferiority. They would not address anyone in Chinook, and if addressed in the jargon they replied in English." In OHS.18, p.101, is a quotation from H. J. Parham's *A Nature Lover in British Columbia* illustrating this.

"I once greeted their chief in Chinook—the trading jargon used since early days by the old Hudson's Bay Company in its dealings with all western Indians. I knew but few words or phrases of this 'language' and the Chief made me feel very small as he replied in a very grand manner: 'Good morning, sir'."

Judge Howay was concerned to refute the claims that "the jargon existed as an inter-tribal medium of communication long before the advent of the whites" as stated in the *Handbook of American Indians* (Washington, 1911), and Edward Harper Thomas' contention that it was fostered by a prehistoric slave trade between the Chinooks and the Nootkans. Howay leaves little room for doubt that the Chinook jargon was evolved by the maritime traders.

The Chinook jargon was drawn from a number of coast Indian languages (Chinookan, Salish, Wakashan, Kwakiutl, etc.), with other words of French and English origin. In OHS.10, Mrs. Gellatly's article was followed by the Lord's Prayer in Chinook. This version was taken from *Oregon Trade Language or Chinook Jargon* by Horatio Hale (London, 1890), which listed 393 Chinook words.

The dictionary published by Hibben & Co. in 1899 also includes the Lord's prayer in Chinook, but there are considerable differences between the two versions.

Many of the words in the jargon were very expressive, and not without beauty. Perhaps some of the oldtimers among our readers would prepare a list of Chinook words that have survival value.

Journal of an Exploring Tour Beyond the Rocky Mountains by the Rev. Samuel Parker (Ithaca, New York, second edition, 1840). This rare volume from the library of the late J. B. Knowles tells of a journey made in the interest of missionary endeavour in the years 1835-1837. It includes a description of the geography, geology, climate, productions of the country, and the

number, manners and customs of the natives, with a map of Oregon Territory. In the appendix are word lists of Chinook, Nez Perce, Klicatat, and Calapooa. The various languages are distinct from each other. The appendix is of peculiar interest to the student of Indian languages. Apart from the list of Chinook words, there is little in the volume to relate it to Okanagan.

A Tree Grows in Vernon — The History of All Saints' Parish, Vernon, B.C., by the Rt. Rev. A. H. Sovereign, D.D., written on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of the parish, 1893-1953. This is an excellent record of church life and work. It is a work of art as well as a congregational record. The story unfolds itself under the chapter headings: 1. The Soil, 1800-1880; 2. The sowing of the seed, 1881-1892; 3. The Sapling grows, 1893-1906; 4. The Tree is planted, 1907-1930; 5. The Tree burns but is not consumed, 1931-1948; 6. The Diamond Jubilee, 1948-1953. In a concluding note, the rector, Rev. Lorin A. C. Smith, writes: "The booklet you have just read is the work of the Right Reverend A. H. Sovereign, M.A., D.D., formerly Bishop of Athabasca and since 1950 a resident in this Parish of All Saints', Vernon, where in an earlier day he had married Ellen Ellison."

Anthropology in British Columbia, No. 4, 1953-54 (British Columbia Provincial Museum, Department of Education, Victoria, B.C.), edited by Wilson Duff. This contains much pertaining to Okanagan. Warren W. Caldwell, who contributed an article to our 18th Report, is author of "An Archeological Survey of the Okanagan and Similkameen valleys of British Columbia," pp. 10-25, a most important article to those interested in the subject. It deals with habitation sites, burial patterns, artifacts and pictographs, and has an adequate bibliography.

Norman H. Lerman tells of "An Okanagan Winter Dance" (pp.35-6) in a paper prepared under the auspices of the Agnes Anderson Fund of the University of Washington.

Provincial Museum of Natural History and Anthropology Report for the Year 1954 (Province of British Columbia, Department of Education: printed by authority of the Legislative Assembly; Victoria, B.C., 1955). Dr. Clifford Carl, museum director, has been frequent visitor to Okanagan and Similkameen, and some previous reports tell of field work in these areas. But last year Dr. Carl and members of his staff did field work in other

areas, so the 1954 report has little to say about Okanagan.

Both the (Vancouver) *Sun* and *Province* have carried a number of articles during the year dealing with Okanagan.

Mr. Bagnall sent a copy of the 8-page section of the 1912 *Vernon News* special holiday number, dealing with "Enderby, Its Present and Its Future." It contains a number of remarkable photographs by G. H. E. Hudson of Kelowna, especially a panoramic view of Enderby in 1912. The picture is two pages wide (37 1/2" x 9"). The leading article, by H. M. Walker, tells of the growth and possibilities of Enderby. F. V. Moffet writes of its present and future, and Rev. Duncan Campbell deals with its "Social side." Graham Rosoman reviews "Civic improvement and Affairs," and other writers deal with various phases of local industry. One story gives thirteen reasons "Why you should come to Enderby." The first reason given is: "Because Enderby has never been boomed, therefore you can buy at reasonable prices and be sure of doubling your money."

The Kelowna Courier: Golden Jubilee Issue, May 2 and May 5, 1955. A handsomely-bound copy was presented by the Publisher to the Society. The Jubilee issue was quickly sold out. Thirteen thousand copies were issued, and even this did not meet the demand. In the historical section, pre-incorporation days are reviewed by J. Percy Clement, the only living person of those who signed Kelowna's petition for incorporation in 1905. This is only one of many authoritative articles dealing with the history of Kelowna. The whole issue is profusely illustrated, and will remain the source from which future historians will draw. It has 88 pages. The issue must have been long in preparation, and the result is a triumph of organization. It will remain for a long time the best history of Kelowna and district.

Enderby Commoner Golden Jubilee, 50 Years of Progress, July 1, 1955. A. L. Fortune was the first settler in North Okanagan, and it is fitting that a front-page tribute should be paid to him in the Jubilee issue of the *Enderby Commoner*. On the same page G. A. Neve recalls an early journey to Enderby in 1893. On page 3 we have photographs of George Bell, Enderby's first mayor, and N. S. Johnson, Enderby's present mayor; Graham Rosoman, first Freeman of Enderby City, and of his daughter Miss Hazel Rosoman, city clerk. We acknowledge with gratitude

permission to reprint two articles from this issue — those by Reg. Haddow and Mrs. Harry Preston. Among other photographs are one of Mrs. Preston's first Enderby home on the Mabel Lake Road, and one of the *Red Star*, early paddle-wheeler which served the district in the late 1880's.

Salmon Arm Observer, May 26, 1955. A headline suggesting Past and Present appears on the front page of this issue, commemorating the 50th anniversary of incorporation of Salmon Arm municipality — "Ox Cart hit by automobile after parade." The issue has over forty photographs of historical value. The supplement contains a condensed history of Salmon Arm written by Ernest Doe, and other valuable stories pertaining to the history of the district. A few years ago Mr. Doe published the *History of Salmon Arm, 1885-1912*. It was printed by the *Salmon Arm Observer*, and is easily the best-documented history of any community in our province. Extracts from this appeared in OHS.14(1950) pp.64-76.

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Early Shipping On Okanagan Lake

R. J. McDougall

The interesting story by Hester E. White in the Eighteenth Report (1954) of a trip up Okanagan Lake by boat in very early days must have brought nostalgic memories to the real old-timers. In Mrs. White's account of that voyage—first day to Crescent Beach from Penticton, second day to Trepanier Creek (Lambly ranch beach), third day to Okanagan Mission, fourth day to head of lake—she gives the date of setting off as October 15, 1888, and the boat as Captain T. D. Shorts' *Mary Victoria Greenhow*.

As there is occasionally some confusion about the identity of early day craft on Okanagan Lake, and dates of their operations, the following references, gleaned from various articles contributed to the various reports of the Okanagan Historical Society, may be of value.

Mrs. White says in her account that her grandfather had proceeded up the lake on the *S.S. Penticton* a few days before her own departure with her mother and other children of the family. She mentions that the *Penticton* was owned by Gillis & Riley. Leonard Norris, first editor of the Reports, states in Report 3 (1929) that the *Mary Victoria Greenhow*, Captain Shorts' first steamboat on the lake, was launched April 21, 1886, just twenty years after the first steamboat on Shuswap Lake. Her advent was due to Captain Shorts and Thomas Greenhow. She was 32 feet long and was run by a coal oil burner. Captain Shorts could never keep enough oil on board to maintain fuel supply and as a consequence had to call on almost every settler along the lake for help. The MVG was burned, apparently in the autumn of 1886. At all events, the engine from her, according to Mr. Norris' account, was placed in Captain Shorts' second boat, the *Jubilee*, which was launched at Okanagan Landing on September 22, 1887. Captain J. B. Weeks, long in steamer operation on Okanagan Lake, a former president of the Okanagan Historical Society and now resident in Penticton, wrote interestingly of lake boats in the

Fifth Report (1931), reprinted in the Sixth Report (1935). He mentions that Captain Shorts in the early eighties went up and down the lake in a rowboat which he called the *Ruth Shorts*.

Captain Weeks gives the launching of the *Mary Victoria Greenhow* as being in the spring of 1886, and he declares that this boat was damaged by fire in the fall of that same year, being converted into a wood burner. The thirty-foot *Jubilee*, with the MVG engine (but not the boiler) was launched in 1887. She was frozen in at Okanagan Landing in December, 1889, and in the following spring her engine and boiler were put in a barge which was dubbed the *City of Vernon*.

In April, 1890, says Captain Weeks, a new boat built for Captain Shorts and Tom Ellis was started at Okanagan Landing. She was called the *Penticton* and was finished in September, 1890. Her length was 70 feet. She was sold in 1892 to Leon Lequime, operated in 1893 by Thomas Riley and associates, then used for several years by the Kelowna Sawmill Co. Ltd., to be succeeded by the *Kelowna* about 1902.

Another early boat on the lake was the little sternwheeler *Fairview*, 55 feet in length, owned by M. E. Cousens, chief engineer of the *Aberdeen*. She entered the scene in 1894 and was to be used on the river between Penticton and Skaha Lake, and on down to Okanagan Falls. She was burned at Okanagan Landing in 1897.

The C.P.R. sternwheeler *Aberdeen*, 146 feet, was launched at Okanagan Landing on May 3, 1893. The screw steamer *York* appeared in 1905, the sternwheeler *Okanagan* in 1907 and the *Sicamous* in 1914. Since then there have been quite a number of commercial craft, chiefly tugboats and ferries.

Captain Angus Campbell in Report 5 (1931) tells of the two "Red Stars." *Red Star* number one, a screw-steamer 33 feet in length, was built in Victoria in 1887. She sank in the Spallumcheen River the following year. This boat had been designed for use on that river but apparently drew too much water for the varying depths. The machinery was taken out of her and the hull, purchased by Dow & Gillis, was hauled overland in 1889 from Enderby to the head of the lake at

O'Keefe's. At Okanagan Landing the boat was lengthened by 20 feet and new machinery was installed. After general service on the lake she was sold to the Lequime brothers in 1891. Due to some bailiff trouble, the machinery was removed and subsequently suffered damage in a warehouse fire. Sale was made to Captain Angus Campbell and Mr. Cousens, and in May, 1894, hull and machinery were taken to Okanagan Landing for re-installation. In July, 1895, the boat was removed to Revelstoke on two flatcars, thence to Robson on Arrow Lake, and finally by flatcar to Nelson.

Red Star number two, a sternwheeler of flat bottom scow type, had meantime been placed on service on the Spallumcheen (Shuswap River) and gave good service during the building of the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway (C.P.R. branch line from Sicamous to Okanagan Landing), 1890-1892.

An interesting sidelight about Captain Shorts, who, as Captain Weeks observes, made some money with his rowboat but lost it all steamboating, is that once he planned to connect Okanagan Lake with Shuswap Lake by canal. This was back in 1889. He planned to dig a ditch about a mile and a half long to connect Davis Creek with O'Keefe Creek at the head of the west arm of Okanagan Lake. This would give a continuous waterway from Okanagan Lake to the Spallumcheen (Shuswap) River at Enderby, thence through Mara Lake to Shuswap Lake. The doughty captain believed that it would be feasible to lay a chain from end to end in the ditch, and for motive power to utilize a scow with steam-driven drum in front so arranged that the drum would pick up and drop the chain as it went along.

The coming of the railway branch line put an end to this dream of a canal connecting the two lakes, although at one time the federal and provincial governments were said to have listened sympathetically to the general plan of a canal between the two water systems, the Columbia and the Fraser. A steamer trip from Okanagan Falls to Savona through Skaha, Okanagan, Shuswap and Kamloops lakes would have made an interesting voyage for those times, and even today.

Mr. McDougall adds the following notes to the above article:

The dates of historians do not always agree. Mrs. White writes of going up in the MVG in the fall of 1888, and being passed by the *Penticton*, operated by someone competing with Shorts. The MVG, she says, was burning wood.

The other writers indicate that the MVG was originally a coal oil burner, launched in 1886, damaged by fire the same year, then converted into a wood burner. But apparently she was not operating in 1887 as Shorts had built the *Jubilee* that year as his second boat, using the MVG engine. The *Jubilee* was slightly smaller than the MVG.

The *Penticton* referred to by Mrs. White, did not come on the scene until 1890. She was also a Shorts boat, not operated by rivals.

The first *Red Star*, another craft of those early days, does not seem to have entered Okanagan waters till 1889, although she operated earlier than that on the Shuswap River. She was a sizable boat.

It is a little difficult to determine what craft were really involved in Mrs. White's trip. It is apparent that the MVG was converted, or was being converted, in the fall of 1886, or soon thereafter, from a coal oil to a wood burner. Mrs. White says it was a little wood burner she voyaged on. Yet Shorts had the *Jubilee* going in 1887, and she had the MVG engine, though not the boiler. Apparently the MVG was out of business after the fall of 1886.

And the earliest other craft which might be called a rival would be the *Red Star* of Dow & Gillis, coming in 1889. Yet Mrs. White should certainly know the date of her father's death, which would fix the time of her trip up the lake. If she said 1889 I would think the boats would be the *Jubilee* and the larger *Red Star*. It is clear that the bigger boat which passed Mrs. White on the lake when she was in Shorts' craft could not have been the *Penticton*, because that was also a Shorts boat and did not appear till 1890.

Parent Society and Branch Reports

Five branches of the Okanagan Historical Society were represented at its annual meeting in the United Church hall, Vernon, on Wednesday afternoon, 5 May, 1955, beginning at 2:30 p.m. The following places were represented: Osoyoos, Princeton, Penticton, Summerland, Kelowna (and district), Oyama, Armstrong, Enderby, Vernon (and district), Vancouver, Sorrento, Okanagan Centre, Winfield, Okanagan Mission, Salmon Arm. Nearly fifty were present. J. D. Whitham, of Kelowna, was in the chair.

Full minutes of the 1954 annual meeting, held in Kelowna, were on the table, but as a digest had been included in the 1954 Report (OHS.18), it was agreed, at the suggestion of Mr. Whitham, that the minutes be taken as read.

Business arising out of the minutes had to do with the Penticton resolution (OHS.18,p.164) urging that at least one historic site be marked each year by local branches. Mr. Whitham suggested that discussion be delayed till after the arrival of Dr. Walter N. Sage, who, being a member of the Dominion Historic Sites and Monuments Board, could speak with authority on this subject.

Mr. Whitham then spoke of heavy losses sustained by the Society in the passing of a number of its members, special reference being made to our late president, Mr. J. B. Knowles, and Mrs. Georgina Maissonville, of Kelowna; and Mr. J. E. Jamieson, of Armstrong, who had been vice-president of the branch there. All present were asked to stand for one minute's silence in tribute to those named, and others who had passed away during the year.

By this time Dr. Sage had arrived, and was asked to speak with reference to historic sites.

Dr. Sage paid a glowing tribute to the Okanagan Historical Society, saying it was one of the largest English-speaking historical societies in Canada, and that it was integrated with provincial and national bodies. The Board which he

represented had very strict rules regarding marking of historical sites. It had to do with "firsts" in Canada, and with figures and events of national importance. On May 11, for example, a plaque would be unveiled in Victoria to the memory of Emily Carr.

Speaking of "firsts" he told of the Model T cars, and that in early days when one filled his tank with gas at Osoyoos to drive over Anarchist Mountain, he was given a four-gallon can of water. After this had been used, the driver would then leave it on the roadway, and the first driver coming west was honour-bound to pick it up and deliver it at Osoyoos. That, Dr. Sage maintained, was history.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

In presenting the presidential report, Mr. Whitham made fitting reference to the great loss sustained by the Society when Mr. James B. Knowles died on Sunday, 6 February, 1955. Mr. Whitham thanked all who had helped to maintain the work, making special reference to Enderby, which had recently united with the Armstrong branch.

The treasurer's statement, covering the year ending March 31, 1955, was presented by Guy P. Bagnall, of Vernon. He had accepted the office when W. R. Pepper, of Vernon, was forced to resign through pressure of other duties. The statement presented showed receipts of \$1581.61, and expenditures of \$510.66, leaving a balance of \$1070.95 in four banks—Vernon, Kelowna, Osoyoos and Penticton. The cost of printing the 1954 Report, and cuts for same, was \$1059.97. Mr. Bagnall said that "since 31st March (1955) cost of printing and distributing Reports had been paid in full, leaving a small balance to our credit in each of the four bank accounts. Thus we have entered the new fiscal year in a sound position." The president voiced the mind of the meeting when he expressed deep gratitude to Mr. Bagnall for his work as treasurer. The thanks of the Society were extended also to T. R. Jenner of Vernon for his work as auditor.

The secretary, as editor of the 1954 Report, expressed his gratitude for help given by Mrs. R. B. White, Mrs. R. L. Cawston, Mrs. D. Allison, R. J. McDougall and others. He hoped the

1955 Report would be out early in the autumn of the year.

BRANCH REPORTS

VERNON: A reorganization meeting of the Vernon branch was held on November 30, 1954, with the late J. B. Knowles, president of the Society, in attendance. Guy P. Bagnall acted as chairman and Geo. E. Falconer as secretary. The meeting was addressed by Ernie Bremer, member of the provincial advisory committee on Indian affairs. Alderman Fred Harwood was elected branch chairman, with A. E. Berry, J.P., vice-president, and Mr. Falconer, secretary.

Mrs. L. A. Bagnall was named convener of the local editorial committee, and a number of articles were prepared by Mrs. Mabel Johnson for the Society Reports. Regular executive meetings were held in preparation for the Society's annual meeting at Vernon.

PENTICTON: A successful year was reported by the Penticton branch. In July, 1954, Mrs. R. B. White attended a meeting of the B.C. Historical Association at Yale. In September the branch was represented by Mrs. White and Mrs. R. L. Cawston at a meeting of the Boundary Historical Association at Midway, where an historical plaque was dedicated. The branch had been asked by the B.C. Forestry Department to name picnic sites on the Summerland Road, and suggested Pyramid Point, Sorimpt (after Indian chief) and Kickinee Point.

At a general meeting in October Mrs. J. B. Innes of Kere-meos had spoken on Green Mountain Road and Copper Mountain, and Miss Frances Atkinson told of her trip to the United Nations.

At the annual meeting on April 28 there were 45 present, and officers for the ensuing year were chosen. At this meeting Mrs. White recalled early days in Greenwood, Midway and Osoyoos, and Hector Whitaker, of Summerland, told of Cariboo and Okanagan trails when he worked with surveyors for the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway on the Yellowhead to Prince Rupert route.

KELOWNA: The Kelowna report was signed by Anne Fitzgerald, president. The annual meeting of the Kelowna branch

was held on December 2, 1954. There was a good attendance. The guest speaker was Captain Charles Cates, president of the B.C. Historical Association, who spoke on "Early Sailing on the Pacific Coast."

"I am very glad to report that at last the old Mission buildings seem to be saved from destruction. Recently these have been purchased from the owner by Rev. Father O'Grady of Montreal, representing one of the Roman Catholic societies, and we understand that shortly they will be put into more presentable appearance and the grounds cleaned up. Two buildings were purchased along with about two acres of ground, so this historical spot will be saved for posterity, which is one of the projects we have been working on for years."

The passing of Mr. Knowles and Mrs. Maisonville was keenly felt by the group. Report 18 sales had been good. "At the end of March, 1955, we had a stock of 175 reports. Since then we have disposed of practically all of the Eighteenth reports and have received a further supply of fifty books."

OLIVER-OSOYOOS: Speaking for the Oliver-Osoyoos branch, Mrs. E. Lacey told of June meeting at which F. Goertz, well-known naturalist, spoke on the habits of some sub-tropical species of plant, insect and reptile life in the Osoyoos district. In July the branch, with Mr. and Mrs. Goertz, entertained 33 members of the Vancouver Natural History Society, of which Mr. Goertz is a member. Election of officers was held on April 29. Papers received during the year included "The Story of the Overlanders" by B. A. McKelvie, "The Life of Peter McIntyre" and "My Life at Osoyoos" by Mrs. C. Kruger.

The annual meeting was well attended and plans were discussed to mark the site of the first Customs house in the district in 1862.

ARMSTRONG-ENDERBY: R. B. Blackburn had been elected president of the newly-formed Armstrong-Enderby branch, with J. H. Wilson, former president of the Armstrong branch, vice-president, and Mrs. M. Pidoboronzy, secretary.

BUSINESS

Certain resolutions introduced by Penticton anent the

Parent Society and Branch Reports

printing of the next Report were referred to the executive for consideration. A. E. Berry pointed out that some names had been omitted from the printed membership list in OHS.18. R. J. McDougall said that those buying Reports for the first time would not have their names in the list until the following year's Report.

Election of officers for the ensuing year followed, and the resultant slate appears on inside cover page of Report; as do lists of branch officers.

After discussion, it was moved by Mrs. Marriage, seconded by G. Fitzgerald, that secretary be empowered to employ such stenographic help as might be necessary. (Carried.)

The thanks of the Society were extended to Valley newspapers for publicity; to Rev. G. A. Affleck for excellent arrangements and accommodation for the annual meeting; to Mr. Jenner for his work as auditor, and to officers and committee conveners. On motion of C. E. Bentley, congratulations were extended to the cities of Kelowna and Enderby on the occasion of their fiftieth anniversaries.

Armstrong was voted as place of next annual meeting, the date being left to the executive to arrange.

Following the afternoon session, members were invited to visit the Junior High school, where Vernon museum specimens were housed. The original manuscripts of the A. L. Fortune Overland Expedition diaries were on view. Birds, mammals, Indian artifacts, etc. E. A. Quesnel acted as guide.

Before supper was served at 6:30 many had an opportunity to enjoy an organ recital by Mrs. Gaunt-Stevenson, A.R.C.M., in the United Church. At the banquet held in the Church hall 122 guests were present. Mr. Whitham called on the Rt. Rev. A. H. Sovereign to invoke the divine blessing.

The main address of the evening was delivered by Dr. Walter N. Sage, whose subject was "Sir James Douglas: Father of British Columbia," to whom Dr. Sage gave the credit for our province remaining British. The address was greatly appreciated. Both Dr. and Mrs. Sage were guests of the Society at its annual meeting.

"Their Name Liveth For Evermore"

Mabel Johnson

In the sacred and cloistered precincts of the sanctuary in All Saints' Anglican Church, Vernon, stand the Queen's Colours and the colours of the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles, deposited there on April 24, 1955, for safekeeping in perpetuity.

About fifty of the original enlistees in the regiment stood mutely and reverently at attention when Rev. Charles E. Reeve, rector of All Saints', consecrated the new set of colours, to replace the original banners, destroyed when the former church was burned to the ground on September 8, 1931.

"We dedicate and set apart this flag . . . that it may be a sign of our duty towards our Queen, country and regiment, in the sight of God and all men," said Mr. Reeve, laying the colours on the altar. In the color party were Major Michael V. McGuire, Major H. R. Denison and Major T. Godfrey, and presenting the colours was Colonel G. C. Johnston, of Sidney, Vancouver Island.

The pilgrimage was pathetic in its poignancy, led by the colonel, turned 80 years of age. The greying veterans came from all over B.C. In their heyday, they left the farm, orchard and town to serve in World War One under the banner of first the British Columbia Horse and then the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles.

It was particularly fitting that they brought the battle silks to be housed in All Saints', Vernon, for it was in Vernon that the Whizzbangs mobilized on August 10, 1914, as the 30th B.C. Horse. In December, 1914, the name of the regiment was changed to the 2nd C.M.R. The men took part of their training at the Willows Camp, Victoria, where they were joined by the Independent Squadron, and the regiment formed. They went overseas in 1915 and to France later that year as a cavalry unit, changing to infantry in December, 1915.

Colonel Johnston was officer in command of the regiment when it was demobilized in 1919.

The history of the regiment goes back to 1908, when, through the efforts of E. Copley-Thompson, the late Hon. Price Ellison and J. A. McKelvie, an independent squadron known as "B" Squadron, Canadian Mounted Rifles, was formed in Vernon.

In 1910 authority was granted to form a cavalry regiment in Vernon, to be known as the 30th B.C. Horse, and command of the unit was given to the late Lieut.-Col. C. L. Bott. This regiment, with headquarters in Vernon, consisted of "A" Squadron from Lumby and Coldstream; "B" Squadron from Vernon and "C" Squadron from Armstrong and Enderby. Later "D" Squadron was formed, taking in Penticton and Kelowna as far north as Winfield.

At the outbreak of war in 1914, the 30th B.C. Horse was mobilized, which amalgamated, as has been said above, with the independent squadron of horse in Victoria to form an overseas unit—the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles. As infantry, the 2nd C.M.R.'s fought to the end of the war, returning to Canada in 1919.

The name of the regiment was subsequently changed to the 1st B.C. Mounted Rifles (about 1920) and then the British Columbia Dragoons. After the outbreak of World War Two, the 5th Canadian Motorcycle Regiment was formed from the B.C. Dragoons; and, in 1941, the unit was again redesignated, becoming the 9th Armored Regiment (B.C.D.).

When the regiment embarked for overseas in 1915, then the 2nd C.M.R.'s, there were 34 officers and 883 other ranks. A total of 4500 men passed through the regiment and fought in France and Flanders. Of these, 685 were killed in action or died of wounds.

Decorations for bravery and distinguished service numbered 214, including a Victoria Cross. Also won were five D.S.O.'s and one bar, 34 Military Crosses and four bars, 22 Distinguished Conduct Medals, one bar to the D.C.M., 130 Military Medals, five bars and one second bar to the Military Medal, seven Croix de Guerre (France), three Croix de Guerre (Belgium) and 28 mentioned in dispatches.

The battle silks have a purple background on which 10 battle honours are emblazoned in green and gold.

Treasured in All Saints' Memorial Chapel are fragments of the original flag, rescued from the fire which destroyed the building.

The new colours are insured against fire by a special and separate policy.

"We who outmastered death and all its fears are one great army still," wrote Canon Scott, much-loved Canadian Army Chaplain in World War One.

At the service of dedication of the battle silks of the 2nd Canadian Mounted Rifles, the spectator knew what the padre meant.

The oldest member of the 2nd C.M.R.'s still living is A. J. Fisher, of Haney, aged 83. Mr. Fisher made the trip to the Okanagan for the 21st annual Whizzbang reunion on June 5, when John "Paddy" Hill, of Lavington, was elected president. The 1956 reunion of the "Whizzbangs" will be held in Vernon.

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"We Will Remember Them"

At each annual meeting of our Society we pause in the day's occupation that we might pay a simple and fitting tribute to the memory of pioneers and others who have finished the work God gave them to do, and have entered into their rest and reward since last we met. We do not think of them as dead, but as having heard the trumpet sound for them, and crossed the narrow sea that divides this life from the life to come. Strong in this conviction, we mourn not as those who have no such faith. They do not die who are lovingly remembered.

The notices that follow are only a few of all that might be included. They are only those that have been brought to our notice. To all who have been bereaved by the passing of loved ones, we extend our deepest sympathy. We pray that God will comfort them, as only He can, and that in the midst of sorrow the everlasting light will shine more brightly.

MRS. GEORGINA MAISONVILLE: For many years resident



in Okanagan Valley, Mrs. Georgina Logie Maisonville passed away at her Kelowna home on Tuesday, March 8, 1955. She had been an active member of the Society's directorate and a frequent contributor to its annual reports.

The fourth member of the gifted Logie family, Georgie, as she was familiarly known in her youth, had with other members of the family left Gladstone, Manitoba, for Okanagan, and selected a home-site in the Jones Flat district of Summerland commanding a unique view of the lake. Early studies were directed by Miss

Mrs. Georgina Maisonville
Minnie Smith, then in charge of the first school in the district, a

little east of the present Summerland hospital. Georgie soon displayed more than average talent which led her to Okanagan College and McMaster University, which awarded her B.A. degree.

During this formative period Miss Logie was active in social life, and gave freely of her musical and other talents. Like her equally gifted brother, Jack, she loved the outdoor life, and was a keen student of Indian lore. Her hobbies included music, needlework, coin collecting, local history and painting, which gave scope for her creative talents and brought her great happiness. She was a member of the Kelowna Art Group.

Miss Logie was married to Campbell Robinson; and in 1937 to Oliver Maisonville, lighthouse keeper. A lifelong student, she gathered together a valuable private library. Mrs. Maisonville taught school in various centres, including Rutland, where for eight years she was also librarian and girls' counsellor, for which she was peculiarly fitted by her gracious personality and gifts of understanding.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Petrie; interment was in Peach Orchard cemetery, Summerland. She is survived by one daughter, one son, one brother and one sister. In her passing, our Society and all who knew her suffered a great loss. (Alex Steven)

CLEMENT BOND SMITH: Member of a pioneer Vernon family which settled in that city more than 60 years ago, died in Vernon Jubilee Hospital on May 1, 1955. The family came to Vernon in 1888 when Mr. Smith was only two years old. He was born in Deloraine, Man. His father, the late S. C. Smith, operated a large lumber mill and factory in Vernon for many years.

Mr. Smith had resided in Vernon for 64 years, with the exception of the decade from 1929 to 1939. During that time he was in business in Wenatchee, Wash., when he operated a fruit brokerage concern.

Prior to moving to Washington, he was associated with his father in the S. C. Smith Lumber Company, and upon returning to Vernon, managed the business until it was sold in 1940 and renamed the Pioneer Sash and Door Company. Mr.

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Smith was representative in Vernon and district for the Sun Life Assurance Company since that time. He was a member of the Masonic Order, and affiliated with the Miriam and Kalamalka lodges and the Okanagan Chapter, Royal Arch. Other interests included sports and he was a keen hockey fan.

Surviving are his widow, one daughter, Mrs. B. A. Sugden, both of Vernon; and two sons, Beverly Smith, of Lebanon, Oregon, and Dr. H. B. Smith, of Vernon. Mr. Smith was one of a family of six children. He was predeceased by two brothers. (Mabel Johnson)

MRS. EDITH JANE MILLS, 81, a resident of Armstrong for the past 45 years, died in Armstrong at the end of May, 1955. Born in Dover, Kent, England, Mrs. Mills took an active part in community life and served as president of the Armstrong Women's Institute for 19 years. She retired in 1954, when she was made an honorary life member of that organization. Mrs. Mills was also a member of the Rebekah Lodge and the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion.

She is survived by six children: Daughters, Ruby at home; Mrs. Pearl Henderson, Kelowna; Mrs. Jessie Duxbury, Mrs. Bonnie Beech, of Vancouver; and sons, John and Ernest, of Armstrong. (Mabel Johnson)

THOMAS LOVE: Funeral service under Masonic auspices were held for Mr. Love in Salmon Arm. He died in Vancouver on May 1, 1955. Thomas Alfred Love was born at Stanton, Ontario, in 1884, and educated in Toronto. He came to Grand Forks, B.C., in 1911. A member of the provincial Legislative Assembly for eight years, he represented Grand Forks-Greenwood and was deputy speaker in the last Coalition government.

Mr. Love was widely known as the editor and publisher of the *Grand Forks Gazette*. From 1936 to 1937 he was president of B.C. Municipalities. A member of many boards and organizations, he was for a time secretary of the Salmon Arm Chamber of Commerce, and he organized the Shuswap Tourist Bureau Association. He is survived by his wife, one son and three daughters.

MRS. MARGARET DALE: Summerland's oldest pioneer,

Mrs. Dale, age 90, died in June, 1955. She had lived in Summerland since 1906. She took an active interest in community and church life, and was for forty years organist of the Summerland Baptist Church. On June 24, 1954, friends gathered to do her honour on her 90th birthday. Her husband died in 1926. An only son, George, was killed in the first World War. Her daughter, Ruth, is a teacher in the MacDonald elementary school.

MRS. A. E. JOHNSTON: Mrs. Johnston was the second daughter and fourth child born to Mr. and Mrs. John Fall Allison, pioneer settlers of Similkameen. Her father came to Similkameen in 1858, and her mother in 1867. Their second daughter, named for her mother, Susan Louisa, was born January 22, 1874, and died May 1, 1955. She had survived her husband just over five years. They were married in 1902 and of this union two daughters and one son were born.

Albert Everest Johnston was born in Van Buren, Arkansas, May 13, 1870, and died in Vancouver, B.C., April 21, 1950. He was in Yukon during the gold rush which began in 1898; drove stage in the Cariboo for a time, and was Princeton district road foreman from 1934 to 1942. Thereafter he retired to his farm at Wolfe Creek.

Mrs. Johnston was born at Westbank, then called Sunnyside, the first white child to be born there.

MRS. MARGARET WOOD: Mrs. Margaret Jennie Wood died in Salmon Arm hospital in November, 1954, less than a month after she had celebrated her 90th birthday. Mrs. Wood was born at Selby, Ontario, in 1864, and came with her parents to Victoria, B.C., in 1878. Her father, O. D. Sweet, taught school in Victoria before moving to the mainland, where he was one of the early reeves of Richmond. Miss Sweet taught in the first school in the district. In 1885 she was married to Rev. James Alexander Wood, Methodist minister.

Mr. Wood was born in 1855 of Scottish parents who had migrated to Ohio, U.S.A., in 1852. Soon after their son was born, the parents moved to Peterborough, Ontario. Here the boy grew to manhood, inured to habits of frugality and toil on a bush farm. Although brought up a Presbyterian, he deter-

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mined to enter the Methodist ministry, and in 1879 was sent as a probationer to the York River Mission, where he laboured for two years with marked success. After brief periods at Thurlow and Stirling in Ontario, in 1882 he volunteered for British Columbia, where men were urgently needed. His theological course being incomplete, he received special ordination, was stationed at Bella Bella Indian Mission, and completed his course by private study. Under the itinerant system he served at Maple Bay, Delta, 1885-87; Clinton, Richmond, 1890-93; Vernon, 1893-95; Revelstoke, Kaslo, Kamloops, Salmon Arm, 1902-1906; Sidney, Victoria West and Armstrong. In 1906 he was elected president of the Conference.

Owing to failing health, Mr. Wood was compelled to superannuate in 1916. On December 14 of that year, while he and Mrs. Wood were visiting friends in Armstrong, he passed away. Mrs. Wood and her family became successful fruit growers in the district. She is survived by six sons and two daughters.

GEORGE A. MEIKLE: Resident in Kelowna for 51 years, Mr. Meikle died on January 7, 1955, age 73. Mr. Meikle was a member of the city council for fifteen years, a former president of the Kelowna Board of Trade and a past president of the Aquatic Association. For many years he operated a large departmental store which still bears his name, G. A. Meikle Ltd. He is survived by his wife, three sons and two daughters.

CHARLES F. TREVOR-BULKLEY: Born in Richmond, Surrey, England, in 1873, Mr. Trevor-Bulkley was soldier, sailor, plantation manager before coming to Canada in 1910. He had been decorated by Queen Victoria for service in the Boer and Zulu wars, and managed tea plantations in South Africa and sugar plantations in Australia. After coming to B.C. as real estate agent, he enlisted in World War I, and saw service with the 172nd Battalion in France.

After the war he took up forestry, then orchard growing near Salmon Arm, and helped to establish the fox fur industry in this province. He retired in 1935. He died in Vancouver in December, 1954.

MRS. ROSOMAN: In October, 1954, Mrs. Adele Rosoman died in Armstrong. She was in her 68th year. Born in Hun-

gary, Mrs. Rosoman came to Canada as a girl and settled in Winnipeg, where for a time she acted as interpreter for the Danish consulate. In 1903 she came to Mara, B.C., and in 1904 married Bernard Rosoman, who died earlier in 1954. They made their home in Armstrong district for many years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rosoman were well known in North Okanagan.

J. R. FREEZE: James Russell Freeze, resident in Armstrong district nearly fifty years, died at Salmon Arm in January, 1955. He was born at Moncton, New Brunswick, in 1879, and came to Armstrong in 1909, later moving to Salmon Arm, where he farmed for forty years.

During that time he served for 25 years as director and vice-president of the North Okanagan Creamery Association. He saw service in two wars—the Boer War and World War I. He is survived by his wife, one son and four daughters.

HARRY F. CHAPIN: Mr. Chapin died in Vernon hospital in March, 1955. He was 74 years old. Born in Portage la Prairie, he later moved to Hartney, Manitoba, and was associated with his father in the retail lumber business. In 1908 he moved to Vancouver, where he was engaged in the cartage and grocery business for eleven years.

Mr. Chapin in 1911 bought out the Alsgard confectionery and tea room on Bernard Avenue, Kelowna, thereafter operating the Chapin restaurant for 31 years, and retiring in 1950. He was an early president of the Cariboo Trail Association, past-president of the Canadian Club, Kelowna; a member of the Elks and Masonic lodges, and an active member of Kelowna First United Church. Mr. Chapin was also prominent in Rotary, one of the early directors of the Kelowna Golf and Country Club and a member of the Retail Merchants' Association and the Kelowna Board of Trade.

Besides his widow, he is survived by two daughters and one son, Malcolm, who is with the R.C.A.F. at Edmonton.

HERBERT BERRYMAN: Mr. Berryman, age 66, editor of the *Oliver Chronicle*, which he founded in 1937, died in Tranquille Sanitarium. He was born in Hampshire, England, had been in Canada since he was 17, and was well known in Okanagan.

"We Will Remember Them"

MRS. JACQUES: When Mrs. Annie Reeve Jacques, widow of F. B. Jacques, died in Vernon on May 11, 1955, her passing marked the closing of an era. She had been a resident of that city for the past 64 years.

Born in Orillia, Ont., on September 5, 1863, Mrs. Jacques was in her 92nd year. Her British parents, who came from near London, England, had been in Canada only a matter of weeks when their daughter was born.

The late F. B. Jacques, whose home was in Alberta, had gone to Eastern Canada to serve his apprenticeship as a watch-maker, and while there met Miss Annie Reeve. In due course, Mr. Jacques returned to Alberta to set up a watch repairing establishment in Calgary, and there he was joined by his bride-elect. The couple were married in 1889 by the groom's father, Rev. George Jacques, a Methodist minister with a charge in Calgary.

Later that year, Mr. Jacques came to the Okanagan and decided to settle in Enderby, joined shortly afterwards by his wife. She was met in Sicamous by her husband, and the couple continued to Enderby in the old Shuswap River steamer, the *Red Star*. The trip took about 10 hours. It was midsummer and the craft became stuck several times on sandbars.

Mr. Jacques established the jewelry, watch repairing and gift business which still bears his name in Vernon, first in Enderby, when it consisted of watch repairs for C.P.R. construction crews.

When steel for the Shuswap and Okanagan Railway was laid as far as Vernon, the Jacques family left Enderby to make their home in that city in 1891, a year before incorporation. Here Mr. Jacques became watch inspector for the C.P.R. and remained as such until his death, which occurred while on holiday in California in 1938.

Of a retiring nature and a lover of her home and family, Mrs. Jacques had always been interested in plants; her garden and horticultural pursuits generally. She was intensely hospitable and had a large circle of friends, who meant much to her during her later years. When Vernon celebrated its Diamond Jubilee in 1952, Mrs. Jacques was among the honored

guests at the huge pioneers' banquet.

Mrs. Jacques was the eldest of a family of seven, and the last survivor of the Reeve family.

There were three children. Mrs. Jacques' eldest daughter, Mrs. W. T. Gebbie, died in 1916. Surviving is one son, George, of Vernon; a daughter, Mrs. E. Dickson, of Kamloops; four grandchildren, of whom Mrs. Harry Gorman, of Vernon, is one; two step-grandsons and eight great-grandchildren.

Rev. C. E. Reeve conducted the last rites and Mrs. Jacques, almost the last of Vernon's earliest residents, was laid at rest in Vernon cemetery. (Mabel Johnson)

A. E. HOMEWOOD: Born near London, England, 95 years ago, Albert E. Homewood, of Rutland, died on May 6, 1955. Coming to Canada when he was 35 years old, Mr. Homewood was engaged in the upholstering business in Kelowna before moving to Rutland about fifteen years ago. His birthday was on the same day as the late Prime Minister Mackenzie King, and they frequently exchanged letters. Mrs. Homewood died ten years ago, as did two of his children. He is survived by five daughters and three sons.

MRS. ALICE E. JOWETT: When she died at Kelowna on March 11, 1955, Mrs. Jowett was in her 102nd year. Born Alice Elizabeth Smith at Bradford, Yorkshire, England, on November 5, 1853, she married there and brought three children to Vancouver in 1889. In 1897 she went to Trout Lake, where she bought the hotel during the mining boom in the Kootenays. Mrs. Jowett had her first airplane ride after she was 90 years old. She is survived by two daughters.

C. W. HOLLIDAY: We learned with deep regret of the death in Victoria on July 18, 1955, of Charles William Holliday. Besides his wife, he is survived by two daughters: Miss Molly Holliday and Mrs. W. Storey, both of Vancouver.

Mr. Holliday will be remembered as the author of *The Valley of Youth*, published by The Caxton Printers, Ltd., in 1948, and reviewed in OHS.13(1949), pp.186-188. Mr. Holliday was born in London, England, in 1870. In 1886 he went to sea, and

"We Will Remember Them"

after a few years before the mast, came to Victoria. Before long he moved to Okanagan. Here he found the land of his dreams. It was for him "The Valley of Youth" and here he made his home for the next fifty years. He took up painting as a hobby and later as a profession. He and his wife, the former Elizabeth Harding, moved to Victoria in 1937. (H. R. Denison)

GEORGE C. ROSE: The following tribute is taken from *The Kelowna Courier*, February 7, 1955: "On Friday, February 4, there died in Kelowna a man who in his early days contributed much to the City of Kelowna and the Central Okanagan, George C. Rose, publisher of the *Kelowna Courier* from 1905 to 1938. He had been in ill health for a number of years.

"Mr. Rose in 1892 planted the first commercial orchard in the Okanagan Valley on 20 acres of what is now known as the Pridham property on the Vernon Road.

"He was instrumental in the organization of the Kelowna Board of Trade in 1896 and was its first secretary and second president.

"He was the influence behind the formation of the Kelowna Aquatic Club and was its first president.

"He played a substantial part, through his editorials, in assisting fruit growers along the road to co-operative marketing and the formation of the one-desk selling deal.

"For many years he was a sort of unofficial adviser to members of the city council and other civic organizations.

"He was an extremely able journalist, as the files of this newspaper can demonstrate, and was acknowledged to have one of the best commands of the English language in Western Canada.

"But, despite his great contribution to his beloved Kelowna, he was comparatively unknown. He was of a retiring nature and never sought the limelight himself. Indeed, he literally evaded it. He was content to work and contribute and let others have the glory."

George Christian Rose was born on July 8, 1872, at Latham,

Parish of Moneydie, Perthshire, Scotland, the youngest son of George Rose and of Christina MacDuff Latham Rose, of Inverness, Scotland. Together with E. M. Carruthers, he came to Canada, arriving at Vancouver early in June, 1891. After two months in Vancouver he came to Okanagan and here he remained. "Mr. Rose never married. His interesting life was lightened by his love of the Okanagan Valley and Kelowna in particular, his faith in the fruit industry, and his desire to make people realize, as he did, that Kelowna was a beautiful place in which to live."

JOHN BRENT: A veteran of two wars, John Brent, aged 79, died in Vancouver on August 20, 1955. His father, Frederick, followed the Mission fathers into Okanagan and operated the first flour mill in the district (OHS.6,p.27). John Brent served with the Strathcona Horse in the Boer War and with the Canadian Mounted Rifles in World War I. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Anna Meeres of Dawson Creek, and a son, Thomas, of Williams Lake, and one sister, Mrs. C. Renshaw, of Kaleden.

FRED H. BASSETT: After a long illness, Mr. Bassett died in Penticton hospital on August 25, 1955. He was 77 years old. The well-known business man who started what was known as Bassett's Delivery in 1908, and which later became Bassett's Transfer when motor vehicles replaced horse-drawn freighters, was a true pioneer. Born in Weston, Oregon, he went with his family to Costa Rica. They moved to Okanagan Falls in 1897, completing the journey by wagon from Waneta.

The three brothers in the family were expert horsemen, and for many years were freighting in South Okanagan, Similkameen and Boundary districts. Mr. Bassett was loved and trusted by Indians and whites alike.

HUGH MAIR LAING: Born in Ontario 86 years ago, Mr. Laing had lived in this province for sixty years, the last 25 in Oliver. He died July 21, 1955. Until illness overtook him, he took a lively interest in valley history and current affairs.

R. A. FYFE MOORE: Robert Alexander Fyfe Moore, 91, died in Vernon on June 29, 1955. Mr. Moore arrived in Okanagan in 1898. He lived first in Peachland, then moved to Penticton, where he lived for 35 years. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and one son. His widow is a daughter of the late John Gummow, of Peachland.

MATTHEW HASSEN, SR.: The \$55,000 Hassen Memorial Hall on the Armstrong exhibition grounds was named in honor of Matthew Hassen, Senior, who died this summer. Mr. Hassen was manager and secretary-treasurer of the Interior Provincial Exhibition, better known as the Armstrong Fair, taking over its management in 1914 from Donald Matheson. He made a fine contribution to the agricultural progress of the B.C. Interior throughout his long connection with farm fairs and the sales of livestock.

B. R. CAMPBELL: After a lengthy illness, Mr. Campbell died in Kamloops on Tuesday, September 13, 1955. He was a past-president of the British Columbia Historical Association, a valued member of the directorate of the Okanagan Historical Society and one of the originators of the Kamloops museum. At the annual meeting of the O.H.S. in Kelowna in May, 1950, Mr. Campbell, as president of the B.C.H.A., addressed the gathering, speaking in reminiscent vein, telling of work done in Kamloops by the Historical and Museum groups, and urging greater co-operation between local and provincial associations. He contributed valuable articles to our O.H.S. reports.

Burton Roy Campbell had a life long interest in provincial history. He first came to Kamloops in 1891. For nearly sixty years he was a member of the International Typographical Union and was Linotype operator for the *Kamloops Sentinel* for over forty years. Between 1903 and 1922 he worked for the *Revelstoke Review* and *Vernon News*.

Mr. Campbell is survived by his widow, four daughters and three sons, one of whom, Leslie V., is publisher of the *Castlegar News*.

HERBERT R. DENISON: On Thursday, 27 October, 1955, funeral services were held for Major Denison, age 67, who died

in Vernon after a brief illness. Born in Calgary, he came to North Okanagan in 1891, and had resided in Vernon and district for 64 years.

Major Denison served in two world wars, took an active interest in the Boy Scouts movement; and was a valued member of the Okanagan Historical Society, of which he was treasurer for a number of years. He is survived by his widow; a son, Eric, of Smithers; two daughters: Enid at home, and Mrs. Stuart Whyte of Vancouver; two sisters: Mrs. W. A. Nisbett of Sumnerland, and Mrs. Dimitre Schock of Wilson Landing; and a brother Norman of Creighton Valley.

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British Columbia for Settlers—Its Mines, Trades and Agriculture, by Francis MacNab (London, 1898), devotes one chapter to Vernon and another to Kelowna and Coldstream (pp. 244-267). On page 246 Mr. MacNab records: "I reached Vernon early on the 31st of July, and having deposited my luggage at the Kalamalka hotel, I lost no time in going to see Mr. Henderson, of the Bank of Montreal, who afterwards accompanied me to the government office to see Mr. Norris." Mr. MacNab had pleasant memories of Okanagan; not so of New Westminster, which he describes as "a second-rate little town with a vile inn." "All night the inhabitants sang songs in the street, and as I was dressing the next morning I saw a dray and two horses drive into a plate-glass window. Fortunately, this accident seemed to wind up the proceedings, as people became so quiet that I believe most of them went to bed" (p.215). That was in 1897. No reason is given for the celebration. Could it have been the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign?

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There is something alluring about fruit growing. Townspeople who wish to try their hand at farming select an orchard or garden for their operations. Cultivation and caring for trees appeals to men and women who wish to live and work in the country, but have no special love for livestock.—*The Times Book of Canada* (London, 1920), p.74.

Okanagan Historical Society

N.B. — All postal addresses given in the Membership List are in the province of British Columbia, unless otherwise indicated.

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